



# PARISH SAFEGUARDING POLICY

The following policy was agreed at the PCC on .....15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023.....

1. We are committed to:

- The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children and all adults
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse.

2. We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with safer recruitment principles, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records checks.
3. We will undertake risk assessments and evaluation of activities where children, young people and vulnerable adults are involved, to endeavour to prevent abuse and risk of harm
4. We will record all allegations, concerns and risks as detailed as possible dated and signed by the person in receipt of the information.
5. We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, co-operating with the police and local authority in any investigation and we will have a clear reporting procedure in place.
6. We will ensure that any victim is seen as a priority and seek to arrange the appropriate support that they need. We will provide pastoral support to enable them to continue to attend church if that is what they require.
7. We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
8. We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the Diocese and statutory authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
9. In all these principles we will follow statute, guidance and recognised good practice.
10. We will adhere to the Diocese Disclosure and Barring Service procedures to ensure that anyone involved in any activity with children, young people and vulnerable adults is safe to do so.
11. We will advise the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser if we receive a Disclosure which is 'blemished' or 'positive'.
12. We will review this policy annually, check that our policies are up to date, and supply a copy of the updated policy statement to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.

***Our Safeguarding Officer is:***

Names: Gwen Yates

Telephone: 01908 564623

Signed.....Peter Eales, Vice Chair.....

Date.....15th November 2023.....