



SAFEGUARDING POLICY

PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the Priest-in-charge and the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

It is the expectation that each person who works within this church community, whether paid or voluntary, shall abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Jacqui Bailey as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Other linked documents:

- House of Bishops Policy & PCC minutes in which the PCC commits to having due regard to the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy and the attendant suite of hard-copy guidance and online supporting e-guidance, in particular the Church of England Safeguarding e-manual which incorporates 'Safer Recruitment and People Management'.
- Befriender role description
- Buildings and activities risk assessments
- Children and Youth Work Volunteer role description
- Complaints Policy
- Disability Policy (in preparation)
- Domestic Abuse Parish Statement
- Health and Safety Policy
- Home Visits Risk Assessment
- Missing Child Policy
- PSO Role description
- Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Policy
- Visits Policy
- Visits Risk Assessment
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Wholeness Group Volunteer role description

This policy was reviewed at a meeting of St Gabriel's PCC held on 26th April 2023 and awareness was raised at the APCM on 21st May 2023.



Signed on behalf of the PCC.....Revd. A. Stevenson

Created: May 2019 (new Church of England policy)

Reviewed: July 2020, July 2021, July 2022, April 2023

Review date: April 2024