

## Parish Safeguarding Policy Statement

The following policy statement was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting.

This parochial church council accepts and adopts in full the contents of the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy for children, young people and adults, "Promoting a Safer Church".

In particular 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 incumbent and the 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 Manager (DSM) and/or statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Following advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding Manager, support and manage the safe involvement of 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 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.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

**Your booking agreement is conditional upon either agreeing to this safeguarding document or you having an equivalent Safeguarding Policy of your own, which is up to date, regularly reviewed and adequate for purpose. You are responsible for complying with all legislative requirements, managing any child or adult safeguarding concerns or allegations and making referrals direct to the police and/or local authority as required.**

**You are responsible for ensuring compliance with this/your Safeguarding Policy; no liability for assessing adequacy for purpose, monitoring compliance or breaches of your policy can be accepted by the PCC.**

### Declaration:

**We confirm that we/our organisation has public liability insurance cover for our activities (if applicable), whilst the church premises are being hired. We understand that we are primarily liable for any accident or injury which arises out of our activities whilst using the premises and ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to prevent injury, illness, loss or damage occurring.**

**We confirm that we/our organisation has an adequate, up to date safeguarding policy, which is regularly reviewed and its implementation/compliance monitored. We confirm that our organisation uses the Disclosure and Barring Service (if applicable). We understand that our booking agreement may be terminated in the event of failing to comply with our organisation's safeguarding procedures.**

This church appoints : Paul Barber as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Incumbent: Vacant Interim Contact - Revd Russell Smart

Churchwardens: Nigel Scarfe and Catherine Geddes

Signed on behalf of PCC:  (Incumbent - Interim Contact)

Date: .....23.09.2025.....