

Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults who may be at risk Policy

The Parish of St. Mary & All Saints Bingham

Principles of the House of Bishop's Policy for Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults who may be at risk.

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Principles

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 particularly when they are at risk.
- 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.

We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibilities within the Church in line with safer recruitment principles including the use of the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

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.

We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with him or her an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities if necessary, to any member of our church community known or accused of having offended against a child, young person or adult who may be at risk.

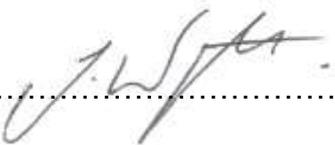
In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

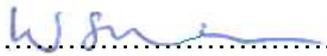
This policy statement will be renewed annually and progress in carrying it out will be monitored by **The Parish Safeguarding Coordinator who is: Gill Coult**

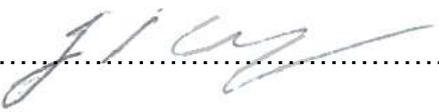
Gill may be contacted on 07973 446015

This statement was agreed by St. Mary & All Saints Bingham Parochial Church Council.

Date **13.5.19**

Signed  (Rector)

Signed  (Churchwarden)

Signed  (Churchwarden)

Date for next review: February/March 2020

PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PARISH POLICY

The parish of St. Mary & All Saints Bingham

A copy of this policy will be given to all youth and children's workers, volunteers and employees who have the responsibility for children, young people or adults who may be at risk. They should sign a declaration afterwards saying that they have read and understood it.

➤ **What to do if:**

- You have concerns about possible abuse (including allegations):
 1. Respond immediately.
 2. Consult the person to whom you are responsible i.e. leader of your group.
 3. Decide together whether to seek advice or make an immediate referral.
 4. Keep a written record of what happened, your concerns and your actions.
 5. Immediately tell the Rector/Safeguarding Co-ordinator.
 6. Only tell others who **need** to know.
- A child, young person or adult who may be at risk wishes to disclose they have been abused:
 1. Listen, keep listening. Do not question or investigate.
 2. Do not promise confidentiality. Tell them we need to share this.
 3. Assure them that they are not to blame.
 4. Tell them what you are going to do and that they will be told what happens.
 5. Make careful notes in writing of what is said, record dates, times, events and when you were told.
 6. Report it to the person to whom you are responsible and to the Rector/Safeguarding Co-ordinator.
 7. Only tell those who **need** to know.

➤ **Things to remember**

- Treat everyone with respect, setting a positive example for others.
- Respect personal space and privacy.
- Ensure another adult is present or in sight or hearing of any activity.
- Ensure any actions cannot be misinterpreted by anyone else.
- Challenge unacceptable behaviour.
- Do not put anyone, including yourself, in a vulnerable or compromising situation.
- Do not have inappropriate physical or verbal contact with others.
- You must not keep allegations or suspected abuse secret.

.....
Follow the link below to go to the safeguarding area of the Diocesan Website which contains up-to-date safeguarding information and procedures.

southwell.anglican.org/mission-ministry/safeguarding

.....
To raise a safeguarding concern contact Diocesan Safeguarding Team

Email: safeguarding@southwell.anglican.org

or contact the Safeguarding Team on 07917 693285