

Smisby St. James Parish Church

Parish Safeguarding Policy

'Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.' Galatians 6: 2

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 checks.

3. 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.

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

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

6. We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person, or vulnerable adult.

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

8. We will advise the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser if we receive a Disclosure, which is 'blemished' or 'positive'.

9. We will appoint a Parish Safeguarding Link person to take responsibility for safeguarding in the Parish of Smisby St. James.

10. 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.

This policy was reviewed and reaffirmed by the PCC on

25th January 2020

The Revd. Stephen Short, Rector

Appendix 1

Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Children, Young People, and Adults Policy Statement

The Diocese of Derby adopts and endorses the Church of England national statement of safeguarding principles:

We are committed to:

- the care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with all: children, young people, and all adults;
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people, and all adults;
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support;
- and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse.

To this end:

- We will carefully select, support and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with the principles of Safer Recruitment.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that any adult, child, or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognizes the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and/or isolation.
- We will seek to protect survivors of sexual abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of respect and responsibility, where they are trusted by others.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person, or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Diocese is committed to:

implementing new Church of England practice guidance through the '*Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practice Guidance*' document;

- regularly reviewing the Diocese's safeguarding documents (by the DST), taking into account any changes to national legislation, Church of England national documentation or local safeguarding boards arrangements;
- undertaking a formal annual review of the '*Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practice Guidance*' by the Safeguarding Management Committee;
- annually reporting from the Safeguarding Management Committee to the Bishop's Council and the Diocesan Synod following the review with recommendations where required;
- formally adopting its safeguarding policy annually.

Thus, the *'Diocese of Derby Policy, Procedures, and Practice Guidance' 2016* represents our commitment to embody the national policies, principles, and practice guidance and to promote and ensure best safeguarding practice across the Diocese: in churches, 'Fresh Expressions' groups, parishes and communities, schools, youth clubs and voluntary groups – with and for thousands of people; children, young people, and adults, across the Diocese in Derby.