

Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding Policy Statement

The Parish of Keynsham, the Diocese of Bath and Wells

The following policy was agreed at the PCC meeting held on 10 January 2017. It will be reviewed in January 2019.

We are committed to:

- 1) The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with all children, young people and all adults within our church community.
- 2) The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
- 3) The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide an environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse.
- 4) We will follow safe recruitment procedure to carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the church for children, young people and vulnerable adults, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- 5) We will respond promptly to every concern or complaint made which suggests that a child, young person or vulnerable adult may have been harmed, co-operating with the Police and local authority in any investigation.
- 6) We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with him or her an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- 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 proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- 9) We will review this policy biannually, and, as part of this, check that all our procedures, including DBS disclosures, are up to date.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognized good practice, and are committed to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Children policy and Safeguarding Adults policy, and the Diocese of Bath and Wells Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults Policy 2013 (available at www.bathandwells.org.uk).

The safeguarding and protection of children and adults at risk is everyone's responsibility, not just parents, guardians and carers. Procedures and formal processes alone, though essential, will not protect children and adults at risk. The community, including all its members, needs to be aware of the dangers and prepared to report concerns and take actions if necessary.

If you have a concern please contact our Safeguarding Co-ordinator who is **Mrs Wendy Harwood** via the parish office – **Tel. No 0117 986 3354** or email office@keynshamparish.org.uk
The ChildLine Tel. No. Is 08001111 and web address: <http://www.childline.org.uk>

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Signature of Churchwarden

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Signature of Churchwarden

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Signature of Clergy

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Date