



St Stephen's and St Wulstan's
knowing Jesus + making Jesus known

Safeguarding Policy

Version Control:

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2023.1	February 2023	28 th March 2023

This Safeguarding policy statement was adopted by St Stephen's and St Wulstan's PCC at their meeting held on 28th March 2023, to replace the previous policy which has been kept in archive.

The PCC recognises the need to safeguard children, young people and adults and guard against the possibility of any form of abuse of children, young people and adults by persons acting in the name of our parish. We aim to create a safe environment for the nurture and development of children, young people and adults, in order for them to feel valued and confident to ask for support and help.

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

- Promoting a safer environment and culture. (See the CofE's *Safer Environment and Activities* published September 2019).
- Safely recruiting and supporting all church officers¹ with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church. (See the CofE's *Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance* published 11th March 2022 and our *Safer Recruitment Procedures*)
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation. (See CofE Birmingham's *Responding to disclosures and recording concerns*)
- 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. (See Section 10 of the *Parish Safeguarding Handbook* published 2018 and our *Policy on the recruitment of Ex-Offenders*)

We will:

- Follow the law regarding safeguarding.
- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Coordinator (PSC) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all church officers 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 church 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 Bishop's Safeguarding Adviser (BSA) 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.

As part of our commitment to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults, the PCC also agree to adopt and follow the Church of England's *Parish Safeguarding Handbook* (published 2018), the Church of England Birmingham's *A Supplement for Parishes in the Church of England – Birmingham*, and our *Safeguarding Procedures and Practice*.

All church officers will agree to abide by this policy, the Church of England's *Parish Safeguarding Handbook* (published 2018), the Church of England Birmingham's *A Supplement for Parishes in the Church of England – Birmingham*, and our *Safeguarding Procedures and Practice*.

The PCC appoints:

Helen Buckley as the Parish Safeguarding Coordinator.
Tom Bryant as the Deputy Parish Safeguarding Coordinator.
Sue Fearon as the Safer Recruiting Administration Assistant.

¹ Any person who has been safely recruited to any role, including Ministry Leaders, and including both paid workers and volunteers.