



# SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

Parish of All Saints, Wath upon Dearne

## Statement of Aims

Our aims are:

- To enable young people to experience the love of God
- To encourage a strong Christian fellowship
- To help young people realise their full potential physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually
- To encourage young people to take a full part in the Church's life and worship
- To provide a safe meeting place for young people
- To encourage young people to become responsible adults
- To promote equality of opportunity for all

This document covers the work of this parish with children and young people, in its services and in the groups meeting throughout the week.

Currently these groups are:

- Tiddlers and Toddlers (Monday 1pm -2.30pm)
- Sunday School (3-16 years, Sunday 10.30am–11.30am)
- Music Group
- Choir
- Bell-ringers

This policy also covers any work undertaken outside of the church buildings carried out under the auspices of the P.C.C.

## Policy Statement

This P.C.C. adopts the policy statement of the Diocese and will display it prominently in all church premises.

As members of the Church of England we are concerned with the wholeness of each individual within God's purpose for everyone. We seek to safeguard all members of the church community, of all ages. It is the responsibility of each one of us to protect children and young people from physical, emotional and sexual abuse, and from neglect.

The PCC expects all church members, especially those working with children and young people, to adhere to this policy as well as to the Guidelines, Practices and Procedures defined in the Diocesan Safeguarding Children file, available from the Vicar's Vestry.

## Application of the Policy

All new workers, whether paid or voluntary, working for church-based organisations, will be informed of the policy by the Vicar, the Safeguarding Children officer or the group leader. They will be expected to accept the policy and guidelines and work according to their requirements.

All new members of the P.C.C. will be required to accept the policy and guidelines and it will be placed on the Agenda of the P.C.C. at least annually for review. The P.C.C. will appoint a Safeguarding Children Officer and will inform the Church House administrator of their details.

### **Church Premises**

Any organisation booking the use of church premises will be informed of the need to observe the policy via a statement on the Booking Form. They should be expected to confirm they have a Safeguarding policy and appropriate insurance. Individuals booking church premises for private functions will have the policy drawn to their attention and accept their responsibility for protecting children at that function.

### **Recruitment**

The P.C.C. will follow the recruitment process included in the Safeguarding Children Policy. References, the Confidential Declaration and a CRB via the Diocesan system will be obtained. Appointment to any post, paid or voluntary, will not be made until these processes are complete. All appointments will be made on a conditional basis until the completion of a satisfactory probationary period. All those working with children and young people will follow the good practice guidelines in the Diocesan Safeguarding Children Policy and Guidelines file.

### **Staffing**

There must be at least two adults present in the meeting space of all the groups listed above. If the group is of mixed sex, it is good practice for there to be a male and a female leader present. If the group is all of one gender, it is good practice for one of the leaders to be of that gender. The PCC adopts the ratios specified in the Children's Act:

Age	Staff : Children
0 – 2 years	1 : 3
2 – 3 years	1 : 4
3 – 5 years	1 : 8
5 – 8 years	1 : 8
8 years +	1 : 8 (first 8 children), then 1 : 12 (additional children)

On no account should an adult be alone with any age group. Staffing ratios should always take account of the need and nature of the group.

### **Registration and Parental Consent**

All groups will keep a register of those attending each session including leaders. Parental consent forms, including emergency contact details, must be completed for all participants, and must be available to group leaders whenever the group meets. This applies to all groups, whether meeting on church premises or elsewhere.

### **Insurance**

The PCC provides insurance, covering public liability and personal accident, for all groups listed above whose activities have been authorized by the PCC according to the requirements of its insurer, the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group.

### **Fire Regulations and Security**

All group leaders will be aware of fire regulations and the positions of fire extinguishers. They will be vigilant as to the presence of anyone on the premises during the meetings of the groups. They should know who to contact in an emergency relating to the building.

### **Food and Hygiene**

If any group is involved in the preparation or selling of food, at least one leader should have completed the food hygiene and food safety course to ensure good practice is followed.

### **First Aid and Accidents**

Each group will have at least one adult present who has attended a basic course on first aid. There should be a properly stocked first aid kit accessible to each group. In the event of any accident, an incident and accident report form should be completed. This should be kept securely in a marked file. Parents should also be informed of any accident.

### **Providing an Independent Person**

Children and young people should have the opportunity to raise any concerns about any health and safety or protection matters. A notice will be placed on the noticeboard and/or entrance to church and to all church premises with the name of the parish Safeguarding Officer, Childline telephone number and of any other independent person the parish appoints to afford this opportunity.

### **The Voice of the Child and Young Person**

Children and young people should have the opportunity to raise any concerns about any health and safety or protection matters. A notice will be placed on the notice board at the entrance to church and to all church premises with the name and contact details of the Safeguarding Officer and the Childline telephone number.

### **Allegations**

If an allegation is received concerning the behaviour of an adult, the Diocesan Allegations Policy (a copy of which can be found in the Safeguarding Children Policy File) will be followed.

### **Concerns About or Reported by a Child**

This parish will follow the Diocesan Guidelines and report the concern to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, or to the appropriate Archdeacon.

### **Review**

All children and young people's workers will meet to review their work on an annual basis. This should include a review of child protection issues and health and safety issues relating to each group. Notification of this meeting should be reported to the P.C.C. The Parish Safeguarding Children Officer will review the parish policy annually and report to the P.C.C., who will record this review in their minutes. The P.C.C. will inform the Archdeacon via the visitation that this has been done. A copy of the current Parish Safeguarding Policy should be sent to the Archdeacon for inclusion in the parish file. A further copy should be sent if there are substantial amendments.

**Training**

Group leaders will be encouraged to attend the Safeguarding training provided by the Diocese or by the Local Authority. The parish will consider its training needs at the time it reviews the Safeguarding Policy. If specific needs are identified the parish will consult with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.

**Signed** on behalf of the PCC by Rev John Parker



**Date:**.....16<sup>th</sup> March 2021.....

**Key Personnel**

All Saints Safeguarding Children Officer:	Christine Druett (01709 590899)
Diocesan Safeguarding Children Adviser:	Linda Langthorne (01709 309151)
Archdeacon of Doncaster	01709 309100

**Review and Renewal Date:** March 2022