

Safeguarding Policy

St Andrew's PCC, Chorleywood

1. Organisation and Contact Details

Membership of Denomination/Organisation: Church of England

Name of Place of Worship: St Andrew's Church, Chorleywood

Address: 37, Quickley Lane, Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, WD3 5AE

Tel No: 01923 447111

Email address: parish.office@st-andrews.org.uk

Website: www.st-andrews.org.uk

Charity Number: 1130419

Public Liability Insurance: Ecclesiastical Insurance Group

St Andrew's normally holds three services each Sunday. The morning services have groups for children and young people and young people also attend the evening service. There are various sessions during the week catering for different age groups: toddlers, children, young people, and the elderly. Some older children and young people may also have short trips away, including overnight stays. The Pastoral Care Team makes home visits.

Each summer a holiday club for 6 to 11 year olds is run in conjunction with other local churches, but is covered by this Policy.

2. Commitment

The St Andrew's PCC:

- recognises the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults;
- acknowledges that children, young people and vulnerable adults can be the victims of physical, sexual, spiritual and emotional abuse, and neglect;
- agrees that “*Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status*” (UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 2);
- agrees that for children to develop their full potential, free from hunger and want, neglect and abuse, they have a right to be protected from “*all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s), or any other person who has care of the child.*” (UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 19);
- commits to build constructive links with statutory and voluntary agencies involved in safeguarding;
- adopts safeguarding procedures in accordance with statutory safeguarding guidance as set out in this Policy.

The Policy and attached practice guidelines are based on the ten safeguarding standards in the online manual produced by Thirtyone:Eight (formerly the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service) with reference to the safeguarding policy of the St Albans Diocese and the principles set out in the Home Office guidance, 'Abuse Of Trust'.

3. Policy Statement

St Andrew's PCC undertakes to:

- endorse and follow all national and local safeguarding legislation and procedures, in addition to the international conventions outlined above;
- provide adequate insurance.
- ensure the recruitment and appointment of all workers is carried out in accordance with government guidance on safe recruitment;
- provide an induction programme, on-going safeguarding training and pastoral care for all its workers;
- ensure that its premises are welcoming and inclusive, whilst meeting the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and all other relevant legislation;
- ensure that children and vulnerable adults are provided with information on where to get help and advice in relation to abuse, discrimination, bullying or any other matter where they may have concern;
- appoint a Parish Safeguarding Officer and Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer(s) and provide the necessary support necessary for them to fulfil their functions;
- monitor implementation of its Safeguarding Policy and Procedures through a Safeguarding Sub-committee, which will report to the PCC on a regular basis and regularly review the Operational Guidelines. Membership to consist of the Parish Safeguarding Officer, the Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer(s), a PCC representative, the Youth Pastor, Children & Family Pastor and Leader of Mothers, babies and toddler's ministry.
- file a copy of the Policy and Procedures with the Diocese of St Albans (if required) updated as appropriate;

Date Approved

3 July 2023

Signed on behalf of PCC