



Safeguarding Policy 2019

Parish of the Church of the Transfiguration in the Church of England Diocese of St Albans

This Policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council Meeting held on 24 July 2019

Safeguarding Children

- We are committed to implementing a safeguarding children policy and accepting the Church of England Policy Protecting All God's Children (4th edition 2010) and to be responsive to local parish requirements.
- We will review and endorse the safeguarding policies annually so that all members are aware of their responsibilities.
- The highest standards will be maintained in all the Church's contacts with children and young people and adult volunteers will be given appropriate support and opportunities for training.
- We will strive to create and maintain environments which are safer for all, that promote well being and prevent abuse. We will continue to review and strengthen these environments through training, support, communication, learning, governance and quality assurance processes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made that a child or young person for whom we are responsible may have been harmed in a respectful timely manner.
- This Parish will co-operate fully with the statutory agencies in every situation and will not conduct its own investigations.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- We will care pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons in line with the Promoting a Safer Church (2017) guidelines
- We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended against a child.
- The PCC acknowledges its responsibility for all work with children and young people done in the name of the Church and requires all those engaged in such work to be properly appointed and supported in accordance with the Church of England Practice Guidance: Safer Recruitment (July 2016).

Safeguarding Adults when they are Vulnerable

- We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that all adults should be offered respect and given inclusion and empowerment within the Church.
- We are committed to implementing a safeguarding policy for adults when they are vulnerable accepting the Church of England Policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults (Promoting a Safe Church 2006) and be responsive to local parish requirements.
- We will review and endorse all safeguarding policies annually so that all members are aware of their responsibilities.
- We will carefully select those working with vulnerable groups and these workers will be given appropriate support and opportunities for training.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made that a vulnerable adult for whom we are responsible may have been harmed.
- This Parish will co-operate fully with the statutory agencies in every situation and will not conduct its own investigations.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to any adult who has suffered abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- We will care pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons in line with the Promoting a Safer Church (2017) guidelines
- We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended in a manner which could affect adults who are vulnerable.
- The PCC acknowledges its responsibility for all work with vulnerable people done in the name of the Church and requires all those engaged in such work to be properly appointed and supported in accordance with the Church of England Practice Guidance: Safer Recruitment (July 2016).

Safer recruitment

- We will select and vet all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the Church, in accordance with the House of Bishops safeguarding policy and practice guidance
- We will ensure that Church Officers have the confidence and skills they need to care and support children, young people and vulnerable adults and to recognise and respond to abuse and that they have completed all necessary safeguarding training.

Responding to Domestic Abuse

All forms of domestic abuse are wrong and must stop. We are committed to promoting and supporting environments which:

- ensure that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse;
- protect those vulnerable to domestic abuse from actual or potential harm;
- recognise equality amongst people and within relationships;
- enable and encourage concerns to be raised and responded to appropriately and consistently.

We recognise that:

- all forms of domestic abuse cause damage to the survivor and express an imbalance of power in the relationship;
- all survivors (regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity) have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- domestic abuse can occur in all communities;
- domestic abuse may be a single incident, but is usually a systematic, repeated pattern which escalates in severity and frequency;
- domestic abuse, if witnessed or overheard by a child, is a form of abuse by the perpetrator of the abusive behaviour;
- working in partnership with children, adults and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of any child or adult suffering abuse.

We will endeavour to respond to domestic abuse by:**In all our activities –**

- valuing, listening to and respecting both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.

In our publicity –

- raising awareness about other agencies, support services, resources and expertise, through providing information in public and women-only areas of relevance to survivors, children and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.

When concerns are raised –

- ensuring that those who have experienced abuse can find safety and informed help;
- working with the appropriate statutory bodies during an investigation into domestic abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the church community.

In our care –

- ensuring that informed and appropriate pastoral care is offered to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse;
- identifying and outlining the appropriate relationship of those with pastoral care responsibilities with both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Policy for safe use of images

- We will ensure that the permission of all those (adults and children) who will appear in any photographs, videos or webcam images is obtained.
- We will ensure that digital and hard copies of any images are stored securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act and are only used by those authorised to do so. Images will be destroyed or deleted after use.
- No copies of images held on file will be released without an up to date consent form. (Consent lasts for five years)
- Where images of children or vulnerable adults are published – names and pictures will never be published together. No surnames, addresses or email

addresses will be published and adult leaders will have the opportunity to request that their contact information is not included in any published material

- Where photos are taken at public services, it will be made clear that these images are for private use only and cannot be published on the internet.
- When consent is sought for images to be used, clear information will be provided as to: what the image will be used for, what the image will not be used for, where it will be used, who it will be available to and how long it will be used for
- For children under the age of 18, consent will be sought from a parent or guardian
- All practice relating to the use of images will be compliant with the Church of England 'Safe use of images' policy.

Key Contacts

We have appointed as our Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator: Annette Chandler

Tel. 01234 302327 Mobile 07814 280999

Email SafeguardingTransfigChurch@gmail.com

We have appointed as our PCC Safeguarding Lead: Philip Chandler

Tel. 01234 302327 Mobile 07531 758766

Email SafeguardingTransfigChurch@gmail.com

If you have any safeguarding related concerns please contact:

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Annette Chandler

Churchwardens: Dorothy Chandler Tel. 01234 300816

Gail Cotton Tel. 07540247748

Vicar: Revd Simon Richardson Tel. 01234 635721

Signed

Incumbent 

Church Warden 

Church Warden 

Parish Safeguarding Officer 

PCC Safeguarding Lead 