



St Bridget's, West Kirby with Caldy Church Safeguarding Statement

As part of the Christian Church living in the spirit of the Gospel, we are committed to protect and care for everyone in the church community, but especially adults at risk and children.

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on.....

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

- Recognising that the care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church.
- Promoting a safer environment and culture for our whole Church community.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those, whether volunteers or employed, with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly and appropriately to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- 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 who may pose a present or future risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults so that they have the confidence and skills to recognise and appropriately respond to abuse or neglect.
- 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, newsletters and on the Parish 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 Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) 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.
- Undertake 'activity risk assessments' for all activities run in the name of the church which are associated with children and vulnerable adults.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are regularly reviewed.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.
- Have safeguarding as a standing agenda item at each PCC meeting

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints _____ as the Parish Safeguarding Officer for a term of three years

Incumbent

Churchwardens

Date