

# A Safe Church Policy

## As a church community, we are committed to:

- The care, nurture of and respectful pastoral ministry with all children and adults
- The safeguarding and protection of all children and adults
- The establishment of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment, where there is a culture of 'Informed vigilance' regarding the dangers of abuse, which:

## For children and young people

- values them for who they are, and nurtures their positive development
- enables them to participate fully and contribute to their church community
- protects them from actual or potential harm

## For adults who may be vulnerable, including those suffering domestic abuse

- ensures that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse
- encourages those who may be vulnerable
  - to lead as independent a life as possible,
  - to choose how to lead their life, and
  - to be active contributors to the church community
- protects those who may be vulnerable from actual or potential harm

## For all people

- enables and encourages concerns to be raised and responded to openly and consistently
- offers support and care for those suffering, or who have suffered, from any form of abuse
- promotes respect, and the value of each person as a child of God

We are therefore committed to best practice according to the national policies and guidelines of the Church of England, in the protection of children and vulnerable people; in the recruitment, training and supervision of all who exercise a pastoral ministry; and in responding to any allegations or complaints. This policy is reviewed each year by the Parochial Church Council and re-affirmed at the Annual Meeting.

(Incumbent)

(Churchwarden)

(Churchwarden)

(Date)

### Because we understand that:

- God has a special care for those who struggle
- All of us at different periods of our lives are vulnerable and in need of help
- We can make a difference