

The Parish of Worle: St Martin

SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 19 July 2023.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, and believing we are all created in God's image and therefore have a responsibility to ensure the best for one another (John 10:10b), our church is committed to working towards:

1. Promoting a safer environment where everyone feels welcome.
2. Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
3. Responding promptly to any safeguarding concern or allegation.
4. Caring pastorally for survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
5. Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
6. Responding to those who may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

1. Create a safe and caring place for all.
2. Have a named Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator (PSC) working with the Parish Safeguarding Team, the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
3. Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to develop the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
4. Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
5. Display in church and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
6. Listen to and take seriously all those who share concerns or disclose abuse.
7. Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following the Church of England guidance. If appropriate, notify the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies.
8. Offer support to survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
9. Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and/or adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties, seeking advice from DSA as appropriate.
10. Ensure that the appropriate health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
11. Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who contributes to the work within the church community of St Martin's will be made aware of this policy and work within the appropriate guidelines.

This church appoints Jill Preddy as the Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator.

Incumbent

Churchwardens

Date: