



Christ Church Abingdon

Social Media Policy for working with Under-18s

This policy was adopted by the PCC meeting on 18 March 2019 and will be reviewed annually thereafter.

1. Christ Church approves of the use of the following social media platforms for communication between the youth and children’s teams and with the youth: Facebook, Instagram, Spotify and WhatsApp.
2. All social media interactions will be carried out in accordance with the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook issued October 2018 (<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2018-10/Parish%20Safeguarding%20Handbook%20October%202018.pdf>) or more recent updates. Exemptions to specific provisions in the Handbook may be made by the Safeguarding Team.
3. The Youth Pastor will be provided with, and use, a dedicated phone and social media profiles. Volunteers may use their own phones and profiles (if they choose).
4. Use of social media in the youth department will be monitored by the Parish Safeguarding Officer, or by someone delegated by them.
5. Use of social media, phone or email to communicate with youth should not take place between 10pm and 8am (except in an emergency; in which case the Safeguarding Team should be informed within 24 hours).
6. All use of social media will be conducted in accordance with the Social Media Guidelines and Approved Practices which form part of the Safeguarding Manual. Copies will be available on the church website, and from the Youth Pastor or Safeguarding team.
7. Social media will not be used to communicate with anyone under the age of 13
8. Parents will be given the option to give or withhold consent, via the Youth Consent Form, to their child being contacted through social media.

Signed:

Incumbent:

Church Wardens:

Date:

K. O. D. H.
[Signature]
S. Roberts
18 March 2019