

The Bourne Parish Safeguarding Arrangements 2023

The PCC of The Bourne Parish is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of the vulnerable within our church community, and also to encouraging an environment where all people and especially those who may be vulnerable are able to worship and pursue their faith journey in a safe way. It has regard to Church of England policy, including the document Promoting a Safer Church (2017) and more recent detailed guidance available at:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/policy-and-practice-guidance>

Parish Safeguarding Policy Statements

Every year the PCC will review and adopt the Church of England Safeguarding Policies, displaying a copy of the signed statement in a prominent position in the church.

Parish Safeguarding Representative

The PCC will appoint a minimum of one Parish Safeguarding Representative. The current Safeguarding Representative is Mrs Ruth Moore.

Recruitment

All those who undertake work in the parish will be required to comply with the appropriate recruitment process and undergo training, especially those working with the young and others who may be vulnerable.

The PCC will ensure that a DBS check is requested after a role description has identified that one is legally required for the position (paid or voluntary) concerned. No person will take up a post until all the relevant recruitment processes have been completed.

Roles that the PCC have identified as requiring a DBS check:

- Clergy & Licensed Lay Ministers
- Pastoral Assistants
- Leaders of any Youth Group, including volunteer assistants
- Junior Church Leaders and assistants
- Director of Music
- Choir chaperones
- Music theory coach
- Youth Minister
- Volunteer drivers

In addition, the PCC now implements the recommendation of the Charity Commission that PCC members undertake a DBS check.

All those who work with children and/or adults who may be at risk will be made aware of and should familiarise themselves with the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, and will be required to undertake Diocesan Safeguarding training every three years.

Children's Activities, Groups and Events

All children's, young persons' and mixed age activities that have been identified as PCC endorsed events and activities and fall within the Safeguarding Procedures will be subject of a risk assessment in accordance with current insurance requirements. Role descriptions will be provided for all helpers and leaders, who will be provided appropriate support and training.

The following activities have been identified as falling within the Safeguarding procedures.

- Mixed Age Boys' and Girls' Choirs and all associated trips and activities
- Junior Church

We expect other Youth and Children's activities will be introduced when we appoint a new Children and Youth Minister.

All children and young people wishing to attend Church activities will be provided with a registration form, which must be completed and signed by their parents/carers before they take part, with the exception of Messy Church/Let's Get Messy (when this is again available). Children who wish to take part in additional events such as church outings, holidays or sleepovers will not be allowed to participate in such activities unless the leaders of such event(s) receive a completed consent form from the parents or guardians of the child concerned, even if the parent or guardian accompanies the child on any such trip or activity. A new form must be completed for each separate activity.

Consideration will be given at all times for the health, safety and welfare of each child and young person, including supervision ratios, transport, first aid, premises and children with special needs.

Activities involving others who may be vulnerable, Groups and Events

All activities that have been identified as PCC endorsed activities, which fall within the Safeguarding Procedures in regard to adults who may be at risk, will be subject to a risk assessment in accordance with current insurance requirements. Role descriptions will be provided for all helpers and leaders, who will be provided appropriate support and training.

The following activities have been identified as falling within the Safeguarding Procedures.

- Home Communion
- The work of the team of Pastoral Assistants

Consideration will be given at all times for the health, safety and welfare of the vulnerable adult, including transport, first aid, premises and adults with special needs.

Use of the internet and other forms of electronic communication, including publication of photographic images

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults, use of the internet, including email and social media, must be in line with current diocesan guidelines on internet safety.

Permission is required from the individual/individuals concerned before any photographic image is published. In the case of children and young people, this permission must be sought from the parents or guardians. There is a Diocesan permission form available for this purpose. Images will be stored electronically or in a locked filing cabinet and retained for a period of no more than five years, with the exception of any formal archive photographs.

SIGNED AND AGREED:

Incumbent: _____

Churchwarden/s: _____

Safeguarding Representative/s: _____

Date: _____