



**St Michael's Church - Shotwick**

# **Parish Safeguarding Policy**

## The Parish of St Michael's Church - Shotwick

### **SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

#### **for CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE and VULNERABLE ADULTS**

#### **'PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH'**

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025

In accordance with the **Church of England Safeguarding Policy** (House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church: Safeguarding Policy Statement') our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly 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 that may pose a present 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 to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- 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 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.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

**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 **Mr Ivor Thomas** as the **Parish Safeguarding Officer**.

Approved for Issue by PCC: - 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Incumbent *Rev. John Coyne*

Churchwardens *Dr Jenny Sneddon and Rosemary Taylor*

Next Review: - February 2026