The Parish of St Etheldreda with St Clement, Fulham

Safeguarding Policy Statement 2023

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 24th May 2022.

In accordance with the **House of Bishops’ Policy Statements ‘ Promoting a Safer Church’ (2017)** and **‘Protecting All God’s Children’ (2010)** and the **Diocesan Safeguarding Policy ‘Promoting a Safe Diocese’ (2018)** our church is committed to :

- Promoting a safe environment and culture

-Safer 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 those who are 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 Church Safeguarding Officer (CSO) 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 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 the House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (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, procedure and risk assessments are in place and that those 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 Louise Beanland as the Church Safeguarding Officer.

Incumbent: Rev Ross Gunderson

Churchwardens: Tom Webb and Alison Power

Date: 9th May 2023