

Safeguarding Policy

All Saints
Fishponds Bristol

Policy Statement

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All Saints Church community needs to be a place where all are safe and protected from abuse .

As a church we seek to provide effective recruitment, safeguarding training, support, advice and policies so that children, young people, and vulnerable adults are safe from abuse in the life of the church and their wellbeing is enhanced.

Safeguarding is about preventing harm to children and vulnerable adults, wherever possible- sometimes this results in needing to use the child protection system to address concerns, make someone safer and bring an offender to justice.

All children are vulnerable to harm caused by others: they are reliant on adults to meet their basic needs, they are taught in most cases to respect and trust adults, they have limited independent access to public services.

Safe guarding children and young people and vulnerable adults, is the responsibility of everyone.

Procedures

The following procedures are designed to maximize protection for children and vulnerable adults, for whom AS has a responsibility and are in accordance with Bristol Diocesan Safeguarding Policy and procedures.

The Parochial Church Council will nominate two people, to be known as Parish Safeguarding Officers. These persons will ensure the application of C of E Safeguarding policy at All Saints.

Raising Concerns

In issues of Child Protection, the person to whom a child makes a disclosure or who has concerns about a child must ensure that Child Protection and Safeguarding come before confidentiality.

NEVER AGREE TO KEEP A SECRET.

1. If abuse is suspected or disclosed a Parish Safeguarding Officer must be approached immediately in person or by telephone. They will then report to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor and if appropriate the Children's Department or Police. If the situation demands it on account of perceived immediate danger to a child inform the Police and/or Social Services immediately. It is important to LISTEN to the child...NEVER ASK LEADING QUESTIONS-THIS CAN MAKE EVIDENCE INADMISSABLE IN COURT- and always REFER....NEVER INVESTIGATE.

****SAFEGUARDING IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL.****

2. In the event of Parish Safeguarding Officers not being available or if the concern is about them the following should be contacted

The Incumbent, Revd. Lizzie Kesteven Tel: 0117 965 0856,
and/or the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Tel: 0117 906 0100

Out of hours Tel: 03030031111(Thirty One Eight, saying you are ring from Bristol Diocese)

Bristol Social Services Tel.01179036500.. Out of hours Tel: 01454 615165

Police Tel: 0117 945 4320

First Response Tel: 0117 903 6444.

3. Photographs of Parish Safeguarding Officers with their names and contact numbers and the Childline Tel No. 0800 1111 must be clearly displayed in a prominent place, regularly seen by children. All children's leaders and workers should be made aware of the role and contact numbers of Parish Safeguarding Officers.
4. If the concern/complaint is against a person in a position of trust the diocesan 'Allegations Management Procedure' must be followed..it can be found on the diocesan website.
5. Details of Confidentiality - who will be told about a concern, who will not be told?.. Guidance in 'Information Storage' (Bristol Diocese website) will be followed.
6. Record Keeping. Always keep a written record of any involvement including any concerns you have with a family or child. Records should include what a child has/may have said to you, actions you have taken and who you have spoken to, decisions that have been made including how and why these were made.

Have a clear, objective, dated written record of your concerns.

Safer Recruitment

Everyone within the Church of England must be recruited to any paid or voluntary role according to Church of England Safer Recruitment Policy.

1. All persons wishing to work with children and young people in a paid or voluntary capacity at All Saints must complete an application form, sign a Confidential Declaration, be supported by two referees, obtain a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) Enhanced Disclosure and be interviewed before commencing their duties . Parish Safeguarding Officers are responsible for enabling this procedure through Bristol Diocese and CCPAS (Churches Child Protection Advisory Service).
2. The Bristol Diocesan Safeguarding Training programme must be undertaken and updates by all volunteers and paid staff.
3. PCC members must complete at least C.O Basic Awareness on-line every three years. To access go to <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/> and enter church number 53/131. All those working with children must under go training C1 – Foundation at a group session held locally. Staff with specific supervisory responsibilities including children's leaders, churchwardens and PSOs, need to complete the C2 – Leadership. Anyone who has completed C1 or C2 needs to complete a refresher course, C5, after three years. Those responsible for recruiting must complete S1 (Safer Recruiting.)
4. All Saints will follow the Diocesan policy on Fair Recruitment of Ex Offenders.

Practice Guidance

1. Attendance Registers, including contact details, must be kept and stored securely for all children's activities, including names of adults present.
2. Records of appointments, dates of Disclosure Barring Service Enhanced Disclosure issue and records of training are kept securely by Parish Safeguarding Officers.
All Saints follows Diocesan Guidelines on record keeping, data protection and confidentiality...ref Bristol Diocese Website.
3. All regular children's and young person's groups should have at least 2 DBS cleared persons present for all of their activities of whom one is a woman. In the event of a married couple leading an activity another DBS cleared adult must also be present.
4. All group activities must be risk-assessed before taking place.

5. Anyone wishing to open a new church based group or hold an activity for children and young people must obtain Parochial Church Council permission and comply fully with this policy.
6. In the event of an activity requiring transport permission from parents (or those with parental responsibility) must always be obtained prior to transporting children by car or minibus. The driver must be DBS cleared and hold a clean licence. Any person with a history of road traffic offence must never transport children. Drivers are responsible for ensuring that their insurance is sufficient and valid for that sort of journey. No more than the maximum number of people lawfully insured to be carried in that particular vehicle should be transported. Each child should be secured by the appropriate seat belt or child seat. Children should not normally be alone with a driver.
7. Parent/carer's written consent must be obtained in order for their child to be photographed during children's activities. Additional consent must be sought for the publication of photographs. Children's names must not be displayed with photographs. Photographs must only be taken by a named photographer or activity leader and stored securely. A child's wish not to be photographed on any occasion must be respected by the photographer regardless of consent having been given.
8. All Accidents must be recorded in the accident books kept with First Aid box.
9. Hire of Church Premises-Groups using the hall regularly must abide by this policy. They must also read and sign a copy of "Safeguarding Conditions for the Hire of Church Premises. They must provide the church with a copy of their own organisation's Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, if they have one.
10. Individuals hiring the Hall for a one-off event, eg a party, need to ensure that there are a minimum of two adults present for activities involving children and vulnerable adults. DBS does not apply for one-off hires.
11. Insurance cover..ensure that all activities are covered including trips and special events.

This policy will be reviewed at least annually.

Helen Whitehead and Jenny Macey (All Saints Parish Safeguarding Officers)

Date: Approved by PCC: 05.03.19