

The Cathedral Church Of Christ And The Blessed Virgin Mary In Chester

SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Chapter meeting held on 20th September 2022

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our cathedral 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 Dean and Chapter of Chester Cathedral will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Cathedral Safeguarding Officer (CSO) to work with the Dean and the Chapter 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 cathedral.
- Display in cathedral premises and on the cathedral 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 cathedral 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 cathedral community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by the National Church of England and endorsed by the Dean and Chapter of Chester Cathedral.

The Dean and Chapter of Chester Cathedral has appointed Sharon Scarlett as the Cathedral Safeguarding Officer.

Dean: The Very Revd Dr Tim Stratford

Chief executive: Mrs. Carolyn Bruce

Date: 20th September 2022