

Parish of St David's, Shenley Green

Safeguarding Policy

St David's will adopt and implement the Diocese Child Protection Policy, God's Children: Our Diocese, found at

<http://www.birmingham.anglican.org/upload/pdf/Safeguarding%20Policies.pdf>

and also the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese for safeguarding vulnerable adults, found at

[http://www.birmingham.anglican.org/upload/pdf/Parish Pack for Safeguarding Adults.pdf](http://www.birmingham.anglican.org/upload/pdf/Parish_Pack_for_Safeguarding_Adults.pdf)

informed by this additional statement.

- This PCC recognises that work with children, hereafter applying to young people under 18) is the responsibility of the whole Church community. This Church is committed to the nurture and protection of children.
- This PCC commits itself to the safeguarding of people who may be vulnerable, ensuring their well-being in the life of this church.
- The PCC shall nominate a Safeguarding Officer, who will be responsible for implementing procedures and guidelines.
- The PCC shall nominate a Children's Advocate, who will represent their views and needs.
- The PCC is directly responsible for the implementation of child protection procedures in the following groups: Godly Play, Messy Church.
- We commit ourselves to safe practise by those in positions of trust.
- We recognise that our church community will include adults who have experienced abuse, that we have a responsibility to offer them pastoral care, and that trained listeners are available through the Bishop's Chaplain.
- We undertake to select all volunteers with care, using criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes, and to offer support and training,
- Leaders will meet with the incumbent or Safeguarding Officer, periodically or whenever problems arise, to ensure that this policy is being correctly implemented.
- At all times there must be at least two adults in attendance at any children's activity.
- Leaders must ensure that the needs of all children are being met.
- Current consent forms and medical declaration forms must be held for all children attending activities without parents or guardians. Parental consent must be given if lifts are offered by leaders.
- The PCC will ensure that children's activities are held in suitable premises, covered by health and safety guidelines recommended by the Diocese.
- At all-age Church social events, all children under 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

- All incidents should be recorded. In the case of children they should be reported to the Safeguarding Officer. In the case of vulnerable adults they should be reported to the incumbent.
- It is Church policy that leaders should not drink alcohol before or during children's activities, and that the anti-drink and anti-drug policy is adhered to by children attending the activities. The police will be immediately informed of the use of illicit substances on Church premises.
- Leaders should attempt to provide positive role models in their care.
- Issues regarding children's or adults' safeguarding should be referred to a Church warden, the Incumbent, the Safeguarding Officer. If none of these are available, advice can be sought from the Bishop's Advisor for Adult Safeguarding or the Bishop's Child Protection Adviser.

This policy statement should be reviewed annually by the PCC.