

Policy Statement

Reviewed November 2017

Safeguarding Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults

This church community commits to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults in its care. A vulnerable adult is anyone over 18 who because of physical or mental impairment, age or illness is or may be permanently or temporarily unable to report or defend them self from abuse.

All church members share the responsibility of helping to protect individuals in these groups from neglect, or physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, of minimising the risk of abuse and of reporting any such abuse, whether alleged or suspected.

- The PCC is particularly responsible for protecting these individuals and for reviewing this policy on an annual basis usually at the November PCC Meeting. The PCC is also responsible for ensuring that adequate insurance cover exists in respect of applicable Groups/Activities.
- We are committed to implementing current St Albans Diocese procedures for safeguarding based on the House of Bishop's 'Protecting All God's Children' Guidance (2010) and any updates which may occur.
- The PCC acknowledges its responsibility for all work with children and vulnerable adults undertaken in the name of the church, and will ensure that those engaged in such work are appointed in accordance with the above guidance and that of CCPAS (The Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service) for Safer Recruitment. This will include seeking DBS Enhanced disclosures for all those engaged in such work and ensuring that relevant training is provided in line with Diocesan Guidelines. Detailed procedures for recruitment of staff and volunteers can be found in the St Peter and St Paul with St Andrews Safeguarding Manual.
- We will endeavour at all times to follow best practice in our work with children and vulnerable adults and volunteers will be offered appropriate initial training, supervision and guidance. A Safeguarding Manual is supplied to each group of volunteers detailing how to recognise and deal with abuse and/or allegations and procedures that must be followed during sessions. All members of the groups are required to read and acknowledge this manual.
- Any concerns or allegations of abuse will be reported immediately to the Incumbent or if this is not possible a Churchwarden or the Safeguarding Officer, who will then follow Diocesan Guidelines. The church will co-operate fully with statutory agencies as required and will not conduct its own investigations.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse and will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended against a child or vulnerable adult.

Current Incumbent:

Reverend Lucy Davis
26 Dewpond Road
Flitwick
Tel: 01525 712369

Current Church Safeguarding Officer

Wendy Harris
7 Kestrel Road
Flitwick
Tel: 01525 754873

Adopted by Parochial Church Council of St Peter and St Paul with St Andrew's ondate

Signed.....Incumbent Church Warden