

St Giles with St Matthew

Policy Statement on the Protection and Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable adults.

Please note:

- In relation to child protection this applies to all parishes whether or not there are any children or youth work groups as it is assumed that some children will attend church from time to time
- In relation to vulnerable adults to guidance applies to all parishes
- Acceptance of the policy and its implementation has been minuted by the PCC

1. POLICY

The St Giles with St Matthew PCC has adopted:-

- i. *Protecting all God's Children* Edition 4 House of Bishops' 2010 the Child Protection Policy for the Church of England
- ii. *Promoting a Safe Church* House of Bishops' 2006 the policy for safeguarding adults in the Church of England

A copy of the full relevant policy is obtainable from the Diocese of Lincoln's website www.lincoln.anglican.org/protection

The policy is summarised at appendix 1 (attached)

2. PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

- i. Supporting families, parents and carers. The PCC supports the approach that vulnerable adult and child protection is seen within the context of family, parents and carers support. If one supports the family, parent or carer, one supports the vulnerable adult or child or young person.
- ii. Confidentiality. The House of Bishop's child protection policy contains (at page 33) guidance on Confidentiality (see also appendix 1 of *Promoting a Safe Church*). While respecting the need for confidentiality it is legally possible, appropriate and highly desirable to disclose relevant information to the public authorities for the sake of protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults. The PCC understands both the need for confidentiality and the requirement to disclose information to protect those who are vulnerable.
- iii. Insurance. The House of Bishops' Policy *Protecting All God's Children* (page 29) gives advice about insurance for those working with children and young people. The PCC has reviewed its arrangements in the light of this advice.
- iv. Standards in working with children and young people. It is important that the environment in which children and youth groups meet is appropriate and safe.

(Further advice can be found on page 22 onwards of *Protecting All God's Children*). The PCC has reviewed its work within the light of this guidance.

- v. Specific work/contact with children. The PCC has identified the following children and youth work activity where the House of Bishop's policy should apply.

This is not currently applicable.

- vi. Specific work/contact with Vulnerable Adults. The PCC has identified the following vulnerable adults activity where the House of Bishops' policy should apply:-

- a. The choir

- vii. To support in all of these schemes volunteers will be approved, supported and trained in line with the House of Bishops' policy. The Diocese of Lincoln will make training on child protection available in each deanery. Information on training can be found at the safeguarding section of the Diocese of Lincoln website.

- viii. Posters will be displayed which feature ChildLine and Parentline. Copies are available via the website at www.lincoln.anglican.org/protection

- ix. What to do if you are concerned about a particular child or young person. Do not keep this to yourself. Share the concern with someone you can trust who can help you. The PCC agrees this approach. For further information see:-
www.lincoln.anglican.org/protection

- x. Monitoring arrangements. This policy, strategy, implementation and development will be reviewed annually by the PCC using the monitoring form at Appendix 2.

Appendix 1



St. Giles with St. Matthew Statement of Safeguarding Principles

The Church of England works in partnership with other Christian Churches and other agencies in delivering safeguarding. In partnership with the Methodist Church, the following statement of principles appears at the head of each safeguarding policy.

We are committed to:-

- *The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with all children, young people and adults;*
- *The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults;*
- *The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse.*

To this end:-

- We will carefully select, support and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration/membership of the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made that any adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including the feelings of alienation and/or isolation.
- We will seek to protect survivors of sexual abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

Approved by this Parochial Parish Council to be reviewed in three years time on 30.10.19

Name of Parochial Parish Council St. Giles with St. Matthew, Scartho

Signed

Name Sheena Cleaton (Revd)

Date 30.10.16

The Parish Safeguarding Officer is: Mike Pickwell

Appendix 2

House of Bishops' Policy

Diocese of Lincoln Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults Checklist

Has the House of Bishops' Policy been adopted and minuted by the PCC	Yes
Has the PCC identified those posts which gives opportunities for substantial unsupervised contact with children/young people/vulnerable adults on a regular basis.	Yes
Have those who have substantial unsupervised contact with children/young people/vulnerable adults on a regular basis:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a job description? • Provided two references? • If new, applicants been interviewed? • Been checked with the DBS • Have they access to the House of Bishops' Policy Statement? • Are all those who have substantial unsupervised contact with children/young people/vulnerable adults on a regular basis approved, and their approval minuted by the PCC? • Have they access to regular supervision? • Have they access to training agreed by the PCC – child protection awareness training, training in child care/youth work/vulnerable adults? 	
Is adequate insurance in place?	
Do all volunteers know who to report matters of concern?	
Access to independent advice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have children and young people access to independent advice? • Have you displayed a Childline/Parentline Poster? 	Yes
Optional but good practice:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have standards been set by the PCC for children and youth work and vulnerable adults? 	

- Do those who have substantial unsupervised contact with children/young people/vulnerable adults on a regular basis receive an annual appraisal?
- Have you registered your children and youth workers with the Diocese?
- Does the PCC receive a regular report on the work of the authorised groups?
- Does the PCC make regular inspections that the group is operating to the set standard?