Safeguarding Policy

**INTRODUCTION**

Safeguarding is of paramount importance to All Saints Little Bealings throughout all of our activities. We have adopted the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy of the Church of England. Full details of the policy and procedures are available in the Parish Safeguarding Handbook1.

All of our employees and volunteers are trained in Safeguarding to the appropriate level for their role, where details of our regional safeguarding training programme are available from the Safeguarding pages of the Diocesan website2.

**Safeguarding Statement**

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church 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 Parish will:

* Create a safe and caring place for all.
* Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC 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 parish.
* Display in church premises and on the Parish 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 church 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 church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

Our named Parish Safeguarding Officer is John Wittgreffe, john.wittgreffe@btinternet.com, 07857 838678.

**REFERENCES**

1. Full details of our Safeguarding Policy can be found in the Parish Safeguarding Handbook <https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/promoting-safer-church/policy-practice-guidance/templates-resources>

2. Diocesan Safeguarding Training for church workers and volunteers

<https://www.cofesuffolk.org/training>

**DOCUMENT CONTROL**

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| Policy Number | 01 |
| Version | Issue 001 |
| Author /Origin | John Wittgreffe, Parish Safeguarding Officer |
|  Comment | This version moves our Safeguarding Statement in to the new format for 2021- no other changes |
| Date Approved(PCC meeting date) | **Re-approved 20th Feb 2023** |
| Authorised by:  | **PCC Secretary on behalf of PCC**  |
| Review Period   | 1 YEAR, each time working through the Diocesan Safeguarding Checklist |