

THE PARISH OF ST LUKE, BLAKENHALL (WOLVERHAMPTON)

SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

This statement was adopted at the meeting of the Parochial Church Council of St Luke's held on Monday 4th April 2022.

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, taking steps to protect children and adults when a Safeguarding concern of any kind arises.
- 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 who may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Accept collective responsibility for the issue of Safeguarding.
- Consider the impact of power, disadvantage, inclusion, disability, age, race and other vulnerabilities on how we provide and plan for our ministry.
- Commit to transparency in our actions and accountability for our work, whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality.
- 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 vulnerable 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.
- Report and record in line with Diocesan policies and comply with local guidance for implementing national policies as defined in diocesan policies.
- 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, and ensure that Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC agenda.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

St Luke's appoints Mary Bernard to represent the concerns and views of vulnerable people at our meetings and to outside bodies as Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Incumbent **Rev Richard Espin-Bradley**

Churchwarden **Yvette Fairclough**

Churchwarden **Alastair Hopkins**

Date: 4th April 2022