

Vulnerable Adults Policy. St Mary's West Acklam.

This policy is based on the 'House of Bishops Policy Statement on Safeguarding Adults in the Church of England' this PCC is adopting the framework for our own policy which will be reviewed annually.

Parish Policy for the Protection Vulnerable Adults

Church Details:

Name of Church: St Mary's

Parish: West Acklam.

Address Church Lane, Acklam, Middlesbrough. TS5 7SE

Vulnerable Adults Representative

The PCC has appointed the following person to be Parish Vulnerable Adults Representative to whom any allegation or concerns about abuse should be directed. They will follow the guidelines and procedures in the Bishops Policy Statement in responding to any allegations of abuse.

Parish Representative:

The present Incumbent (or if an interregnum the Church Wardens)

Church Policy Statement:

St Mary's Parish Church recognises and values Vulnerable Adults as equal partners in the life and ministry of the church. The Parochial Church Council (hereafter PCC) takes seriously its obligations and responsibilities to protect and safeguard them.

Therefore in the church's provision and ministry, the PCC is;

1. Committed to respectful pastoral ministry to all adults within our church community.
2. Committed, within our church community, to the safeguarding and protection of vulnerable people.
3. Will carefully select and through the York Diocese train all those with any pastoral responsibility within the Church, including the use of the 'Disclosure and Barring Service' where legal or appropriate.
4. Will respond without delay to any complaint made that an adult for whom we were responsible has been harmed by referring the matter to the Archdeacon and then cooperate with police and the local authority if required in any investigation.
5. Will seek access to pastoral care for anyone who has suffered abuse so that an appropriate healing ministry can be developed.
6. Will challenge any abuse of power by anyone in a position of trust by face to face interview in the presence of a third party who will record a factual account of the interview. This will be kept for 50 years and satisfy data protection
7. Will endeavour to provide appropriate care to any member of our church community known to have offended against a vulnerable person.
8. Will through our health and Safety policies ensure the safety of the congregation and visitors. Any serious concerns about an individual will be referred in the first case to the Vicar and then the Archdeacon.
9. Those with pastoral responsibility will log their visits (see Appendix B) and ensure it is known by a third party where and when they are visiting.
10. Will place on the church notice board the statement in Appendix A

Policy Adoption

This policy is adopted and will be reviewed annually by the PCC of

(St Mary, West Acklam, Middlesbrough)

Signed:

(Incumbent) (Church Wardens)

Print Name:

(Incumbent) (Church Wardens)

Date: 26th May 2015

Useful Telephone numbers:

- Archdeacon Reverend Samantha Rushton 01642 706095
- Social Services 01642 726004
- Local Police: Middlesbrough District HQ dial 101
- Ecclesiastical Insurance Group (NB: Contact with the EIG should only be undertaken following discussion with the Archdeacon or Diocesan Secretary if it is with regard to a related complaint or concern)

Write to:

The Managing Director
Ecclesiastical Insurance Group
Beaufort House
Brunswick Road
Gloucester
GL1 1JZ

and marked "Strictly Private and Confidential"

In case of an emergency telephone. 01452 528533

Book 'Responding Well to those who have been sexually abused'
Policy Guidance for the Church of England (1st edition)
Available in Vicars Vestry

Appendix A

Policy on the Safeguarding of Adults in the Church

This statement was adopted by the PCC of St Mary's, West Acklam, Middlesbrough at a Parochial Church Council meeting held on Wednesday 13th May 2015.

This policy will be reviewed annually to monitor progress achieved.

1. We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that each of us may be regarded as vulnerable at some time in our lives.
2. As members of this parish we commit ourselves to respectful pastoral care for all adults to whom we minister.
3. We commit ourselves to the safeguarding of people who may be vulnerable, ensuring their well-being in the life of this church.
4. We commit ourselves to promoting safe practice by those in positions of trust.
5. The parish commits itself to promoting the inclusion and empowerment of people who may be vulnerable.
6. It is the responsibility of each of us to prevent the physical, emotional, sexual, financial and spiritual abuse of vulnerable people and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
7. We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with people who may be vulnerable.
8. The parish is committed to supporting, resourcing, training and regularly reviewing those who undertake work amongst people who may be vulnerable.
9. The Parish adopts the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese.
10. Each person who works with vulnerable people will agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this church.

This Church appoints the incumbent / Churchwardens to represent the concerns and views of vulnerable people at our meetings and to outside bodies.

Incumbent.....

Churchwarden Mrs J Lomas

Churchwarden Mr R Willis

Dated 26th May 2015

