

# Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Policy Statement

The Parish of St David with St Michael and All Angels, the Diocese of Exeter

The following policy was agreed at the PCC meeting held on March 9th 2015.

We are committed to:

- 1) As members of the PCC we commit our church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all, especially the young and vulnerable. We recognise that our work with children, young people and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the whole church community.
- 2) We are fully committed to acting within current legislation, guidance, national frameworks and the Diocesan Safeguarding procedures.
- 3) We will also act in an open, transparent and accountable way in working in partnership with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Children and Adult Social Care Services, the Police, Probation Services and other agencies to safeguard children and vulnerable adults.
- 4) We welcome staff and volunteers who are recruited in accordance with the Church of England Safer Recruitment Policy and Practice Guidance (2014). We will follow safe recruitment procedure to carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the church for children, young people and vulnerable adults, including registration with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). This means we will ensure that those who are employed or who volunteer to work with children, young people and vulnerable adults are suitable for the role, that they know what the role entails and that they are supported in carrying it out.
- 5) The establishment of safe, caring communities, which provide an environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse. We will see to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- 6) We will respond to every complaint made which suggests that a child, young person or vulnerable adult may have been harmed, co-operating with the Police and local authority in any investigation.
- 7) We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- 8) We will seek to support anyone who has suffered abuse and if necessary, help them access appropriate care.
- 9) We will care for and minister to any of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person, or vulnerable adult, and in conjunction with the Diocese and other specialist agencies draw up a plan to avoid harm to them or anyone else.
- 10) We will review this policy annually.

If anyone has any questions regarding this policy, or has a safeguarding concern of any nature, they should please contact:

Vicar

Rev. Tom Honey

Tel No 01392 686000

Safeguarding Rep

Mrs Mary Kirkland