

St Margaret's Parish Church, Olton

Policy Statement on Promoting a Safer Church

July 2018

(Reviewed 25 July 2019)

This policy statement was adopted by St Margaret's Parish Church at a Parochial Church Council meeting held on 19th July 2018.

This policy will be reviewed each year to monitor the progress that has been achieved.

The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church. Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play in promoting a Safer Church for all.

Our commitments:

1. Promoting a safer environment and culture
2. Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults within the Church
3. Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
4. Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons
5. Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons
6. Responding to those who may pose a present risk to others

We will implement good safeguarding practice by ensuring:

- The welfare of the child, young person and vulnerable adult is paramount;
- A leadership commitment, at all levels, to the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults;
- Our safeguarding policy is available to all church officers;
- A clear line of accountability within our church for work on safeguarding;
- Clear reporting procedures to deal with safeguarding concerns and allegations;
- Clear roles for church officers;
- We have clear arrangements for support and/or supervision of church officers;
- All church officers working with or in contact with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults attend diocesan safeguarding training;
- Our practice and services are informed by ongoing learning, review and by the views of children, young people, families and vulnerable adults;
- Safer recruitment procedures are in place;
- Effective working with statutory and voluntary sector partners;

- We have publicly advertised arrangements for children, young people and vulnerable adults to be able to speak to an independent person, as required;
- Our complaints and whistleblowing procedures are well publicised;
- Effective information sharing;
- Good record keeping.

If you have any concerns or need to talk to someone please contact:

Martin Pyne, Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator	07921646166
Revd Dominic Wright, Vicar	0121 706 2318

Other useful contacts:

Bishop's Safeguarding Adviser	07342 933844
Childline	0800 1111
Family Lives Helpline	08088 002222
Samaritans	116 123
Elder Abuse	08088 088141
Domestic Violence Helpline	08082 000247
Men's Domestic Violence Helpline	08088 010327
LGBT Domestic Violence Helpline	03009 995428
National Association of People Abused in Childhood	08000 853330
Stop in Now! Helpline	08081 000900
Local Authority Children's Social Care Services (Solihull)	0121 704 8007
Local Authority Adult Social Care Services (Solihull)	0121 704 8007