



Safeguarding Policy

Version	1.1
Date Approved	Jan 2023
Date for Review	Jan 2024
Changelog:	<p>From v1 (Jan 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Made reference to <i>Promoting a Safer Church</i> the first bullet point• Changed named PSO to Helen Wilson• Minor formatting changes

Safeguarding Policy Statement for St. Andrew's Parish Church, Girton

We are committed to safeguarding all children and vulnerable adults in our care.

- **The church is committed to following the Home Office Code of Practice *Safe from Harm* and adopts the guidelines and procedures published by the Church of England in its publication *Promoting a Safer Church (2017)***
- It is the responsibility of each one of us to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children, young people and vulnerable adults, and to report any abuse discovered or suspected.
- We recognise that our work with children, young people and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the whole church.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children, young people and vulnerable adults, whether paid or voluntary.
- The church is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who work with children, young people and vulnerable adults, and to providing supervision.
- Each worker with children, young people and vulnerable adults shall be informed of good practice guidelines and undertake to observe them; i.e. being DBS checked, reporting any incident immediately to the Safeguarding Officer and Rector, keeping a record of any incidents, and reporting any concern about the welfare or behaviour of any child or vulnerable adults.
- The church is committed to pastorally caring for the victims and survivors of abuse, and other affected persons.
- The church is committed to pastorally caring for those who are the subject of concerns of allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- As part of our commitment to children, young people and vulnerable adults, the church has appointed: Michael Bigg (Rector) and Helen Wilson (Parish Safeguarding Officer) to be their Advocates.
- Their role will be explained to parents and children, and their names, addresses and phone numbers will be publicly displayed.

WHISTLEBLOWING: Any incident should be reported immediately to the church Advocates named above. It will then go to the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer who will report the incident to the relevant statutory authorities if it is thought to be necessary. Incidents should also be reported to the Charities Commission.

In cases of emergency 999 should be called.

Gossip and rumour are unhelpful and harmful. Incidents must be clearly reported with all the relevant and accurate times, dates and names of those involved, and a clear statement of the incident recorded as soon as possible after the incident.

This statement will be referenced in each Annual Report and progress in carrying it out will be monitored at each APCM.

This statement was agreed at the PCC meeting held in January 2023.

Signed:.....(Rector)

Signed:(Safeguarding Officer)