

## Safeguarding policy promoting a safer church

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, our Team churches are 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
- 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
- have named Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO) to work with the Team Rector, Team Vicars and the PCC and District Church Councils (DCCs) to
- implement policy and procedures
- safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people
- and 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 on church premises and on the parish website the details of whom to contact with 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 immediately notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies
- 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 Practice at least annually.

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

Our Parish Safeguarding Officers are:

Team Parish: Zelda France-Brotherton,

Emmanuel Church: Pauline Botting, Tunde Adebayo

St George's Church: Rosemary Haslam

St Lawrence Church: Mary Walsh, Lorna Armstrong

St Martin's Church: Alleyne Bartram

Team Rector: David Heath-Whyte

Churchwardens: Charles Jeffery, Simon Wakely

Date: 18th January 2024