



The Parish of Corbridge St. Andrew with Halton and Newton Hall
St. Andrew's Cottage, Hill Street, Corbridge. NE45 5AA

Social Media Policy

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 19th October 2022.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy guidelines for use of Social Media our church is committed to:

- **Be safe.** The safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults must be maintained. If you have any concerns, ask a diocesan safeguarding adviser.
- **Be respectful.** Do not post or share content that is sexually explicit, inflammatory, hateful, abusive, threatening or otherwise disrespectful.
- **Be kind.** Treat others how you would wish to be treated and assume the best in people. If you have a criticism or critique to make, consider not just *whether* you would say it in person, but the tone you would use.
- **Be honest.** Don't mislead people about who you are.
- **Take responsibility.** You are accountable for the things you do, say and write. Text and images shared can be public and permanent, even with privacy settings in place. If you're not sure, don't post it.
- **Be a good ambassador.** Personal and professional life can easily become blurred online so think before you post.
- **Disagree well.** Some conversations can be places of robust disagreement and it's important we apply our values in the way we express them.
- **Credit others.** Acknowledge the work of others. Respect copyright and always credit where it is due. Be careful not to release sensitive or confidential information and always question the source of any content you are considering using.
- **Follow the rules.** Abide by the terms and conditions of the various social media platforms themselves. If you see a comment that you believe breaks their policies, then please report it to the respective company.

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

Incumbent:

Churchwardens:



The Parish of Corbridge St. Andrew with Halton and Newton Hall
St. Andrew's Cottage, Hill Street, Corbridge. NE45 5AA

The Church of England Digital Charter

This church has signed up to the Church of England Digital Charter (outlined below) to demonstrate that we are committed to ensuring that social media and the web are positive places for conversations to happen.

- **Truth** - we should hold ourselves to high ideals of checking that what we post online is fair and factual.
- **Kindness** - we are all different and that makes the world an interesting place – and at times a challenging one. Think the best of people, whether they share our views or are speaking against them and aim to be constructive in the way we engage.
- **Welcome** - in the language we use and the way we interact. It's easy for Christians to speak in another language using words that those outside the Church might not relate to.
- **Inspiration** - we are called to be witnesses of our faith and to use social media in a way that genuinely engages others
- **Togetherness** - we are one Church and other members of this Church are our brothers and sisters in Christ. It is crucial we treat those around us in this way.
- **Safeguarding** - if you have any concerns about the wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults, please contact our Parish Safe Guarding Officer: Mrs Mandy Norton
- **Agree** to the Church's and Archbishops' social media guidelines.