

PARISH OF ADLINGTON ST PAUL – SAFEGUARDING POLICY

PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

Date Policy Ratified at PCC = _____

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and young people (CYP's) and Vulnerable Adults (VA's) within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern and allegation – using the **BRIEF** format.
 - B – Believe** what is being reported to you; it is not your role to investigate or triage
 - R – Record information** in line with Parish Safeguarding Handbook including mandatory reporting to the DSA.
 - I – Investigate** – an appropriately trained individual within the church should look into the matter, seeking help from external agencies where appropriate.
 - E – Evidence** – supporting documentation, notes and witness accounts should be secured where appropriate.
 - F – Follow – up.** An appropriately trained person in the church – usually the SGO – should follow up the report to ensure that action has taken place to reduce, remove or negate further safeguarding risk.
- Care pastorally for victims and survivors of abuse, and other affected persons.
- Care pastorally for those who are subject of cause 4 concerns or allegations of abuse, and other affected persons.
- Respond in a proportionate, legal, accountable and necessary (PLAN) way to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for CYPs and VA's 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 in church premises and on websites details of who to contact if there is a safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect CYP's and VA's when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops Guidance, notifying the DSA and any statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims / survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, or when and where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to CYPs and VA's, whilst maintaining the confidentiality and safety of those 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 practices at least annually with a self auditing tool.

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

This church appoints JILLIAN MALTMAN as its Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Incumbent _____ Date _____

Church Wardens _____ Date _____

_____ Date _____