



St George and St Laurence's Church Middleton St George Policy Statement on Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

The following was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on **25 September 2025**.

The PCC of St George and St Laurence's, Middleton St George, has adopted the Diocese of Durham Safeguarding Policy (2025 version) as its safeguarding policy, together with the relevant Church of England safeguarding policies and practice guidance referred to therein.

In order to comply with this policy:-

1. We commit ourselves to promoting a safe, welcoming environment and culture that ensures we offer respectful pastoral care with the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults at the centre of all that we do.
2. We will maintain a register of all leaders and helpers of all activities authorised by the PCC.
3. We will maintain and store securely, in the church office, Personal Disclosure and reference form records of all Leaders and occasional helpers with regular access to children, young people and vulnerable adults and will undertake to exercise proper care when making appointments in accordance with Church of England and Diocesan Safer Recruitment and People Management Policy.
4. We acknowledge that being convicted, cautioned or bound over for a criminal offence does not automatically debar an individual from working with children, young people or vulnerable adults.
5. We will promote safe practices by all Leaders and helpers by facilitating access to Safeguarding Training Modules, providing appropriate resources and holding regular reviews in order to monitor activities across the life of our church.
6. We will encourage all who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults in the name of St George and St Laurence's Church to abide by the guidelines and policies established by our church. In particular we will ensure they are aware of, and adhere to, The Code of Safer Working Practice. (Section 10 of the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy 2023)
7. We will ensure appropriate information; including parental consent forms are recorded and maintained. When unusual activities such as occasional trips are to be arranged, then the PCC must be given sufficient information, including appropriate risk assessments and activity specific consent forms for them to be satisfied that everyone involved is adequately supervised, protected and insured.
8. We will identify an independent person as Parish Safeguarding Officer (**details below**) who is named and accessible to all in contact with the church. The Safeguarding Officer will be provided with training and support so that action can be immediately taken if any Safeguarding concerns are suspected or disclosed.

This statement should be displayed on the noticeboard within the school community room and St George's church to ensure parishioners have access to the relevant information. It will be reviewed by PCC annually.

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Judi Trewitt

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