

Child Protection Policy

St Boniface and St John's ("The Church")
Nursling and Rownhams PCC

Church Statement

This Church has an active children's and young people's ministry. The Parochial Church council (the PCC) takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of all children and young people entrusted to the Church's care or who use its services or participate in any of its groups. This Policy outlines the procedures and standards expected by the Church.

Church Mission

As part of the Church's mission the PCC are committed to:

- Listening to and valuing children and young people and ensuring their protection whilst participating in all Church activities.
- Encouraging and supporting parents and carers.
- Ensuring that children's and youth workers are offered appropriate support and training.
- Ensuring there is a system for dealing with concerns about possible abuse.

To ensure these are achieved the PCC has appointed Ann Laird as the Parish's Safeguarding Officer.

Areas of Policy

The PCC recognises that many children and young people are the victims of neglect, or physical, sexual or emotional abuse. The PCC have therefore adopted the policy contained in this document, setting out agreed guidelines relating to the following areas:

- Appointing children's/youth workers
- Supervision of activities and practice issues.
- Responding to allegations of abuse, including those made against leaders/members of the Church
- Helping victims of abuse
- Working with offenders

Diocesan contact

Director of Social Transformation & Child Protection Officer
Ms Jane Fisher. She can be contacted on 01962 737347

Definitions of abuse

Abuse falls under four main headings, although in some cases more than one form of abuse may be present. There is clearly some overlap between the categories.

(See Appendix A)

Recognising and responding to abuse

It is imperative that we do not embark on a campaign to spot child abuse in every situation, but there are some key signs that should be noted and followed up if appropriate.

(See Appendix B)

What to do if you suspect abuse may have occurred

See Appendix C for action to be taken on suspicion or report of abuse.

Working with offenders

See appendix D for practice in working with offenders within the Church.

Appointment of workers

A recruitment policy for the appointment of workers (including volunteers) is contained in Appendix E

Supervision of children's and youth activities

See Appendix F for details of supervision of activities.

Supervision of workers

The Church has a clear supervision process for those working with children and young people. (See Appendix G)

Volunteer Conduct

Volunteers are expected to behave in accordance with this policy. In cases of misconduct the disciplinary procedure will be used, (See Appendix H)

The Diocesan policy and appendices are kept in the filing cabinet in the vestry.

Date:

Signed:

(Vicar)

Signed:

(PCC Safeguarding Officer)