

All Saints’ Church Bighton

Church Lane, Bighton, Alresford, Hampshire. SO24 9RB



**CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

**The Parochial Church Council of All Saints, Bighton is committed to:**

1. The safeguarding, care and nurture of children and young persons within our church

 community;

2. The careful selection and training of volunteers and paid workers using the Disclosure and Barring

 Service, amongst other tools, to check the background of those who work with children and young

 persons in the Benefice;

3. Responding without delay to every complaint made that a child or young person

 may be, or may have been harmed;

4. Full cooperation with statutory agencies during any investigation into allegations

 concerning abuse of a child or young person in the church community;

5. Providing informed pastoral care to anyone who has suffered abuse;

6. The management and supervision of any member of the church community known

 or thought to pose a threat to children or young persons.

**In order to meet those objectives, the Rector and the Parochial Church Council:**

1. Recognise that the welfare of children and young persons is paramount and that

 they have a duty to take reasonable care for the well being of all children and

 young persons in the church community when in their charge;

2. Have appointed a Safeguarding Officer, and a Safeguarding Coordinator, to assist

in the implementation of the policy by in particular (a) endeavouring to ensure that all the procedures set out in the House of Bishops' Policy on Child Protection and in related diocesan guidance are followed, (b) ensuring that any concerns about a child or young person or the behaviour of an adult are appropriately reported both to the statutory agencies and to the Diocesan Child Protection Adviser, and (c) acting as children's advocates, unless others are appointed;

3. Arrange that those who work with children and young persons in the Benefice have been

appropriately appointed, trained and are being appropriately supported and supervised;

4. Have adopted the Code of Conduct annexed hereto;

5. Endeavour to create a culture of informed vigilance so that the welfare of children

and young persons will be taken seriously by all adults in the church community, and any concerns and allegations are shared with a Safeguarding Officer;

6. Undertake to provide appropriate pastoral care for children, young persons and

 adults who are, or have been, exposed to abuse, and their families;

7. Provide appropriate insurance cover for activities involving children and young

 persons in the Benefice;

8. Undertake to keep this Child Protection Policy under annual review.

Rosie Waring Green is appointed by the Parochial Church Council to act as its officer to represent the concerns and views of children and young people at its meetings and to third parties and to prepare the report to the Parochial Church Council Meeting set out above.

This Child Protection Policy has been approved by the Rev. Julia Myles and adopted by the Parochial Church Council on 14th April 2019.

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

**Every adult in our church community is expected:**

(1) To take all children and young persons seriously, and treat them with dignity;

(2) To be mindful at all times of the Church's duty to safeguard children and young

 persons;

(3) To inform a Child Protection Officer promptly of any concern which he or she has

 about the welfare of any child or young person within our church community.

**In respect of any activities undertaken or promoted by the Church involving children or young persons, the following have the additional responsibilities set out below:**

**Those working with children and young people:**

(4) Never to forget that the welfare of children and young persons is of paramount

 importance;

(5) To act always in a professional manner;

(6) Not to permit any bullying or discrimination;

(7) To liaise openly with parents, guardians and carers;

(8) To use physical contact only when absolutely necessary, and, in that event, to

 inform the Benefice Child Protection Coordinator;

(9) To avoid being alone with children and young persons;

(10) To attend appropriate child protection training;

**Those organising any such activities:**

(12) To inform the Benefice Child Protection Coordinator of any such proposed

 activity;

(13) To arrange supervision as agreed with the Benefice Child Protection Coordinator;

(14) To manage situations where a child or young person is likely to be left alone with

 an adult;

(15) To take appropriate steps where non-compliance with the code of conduct has

 occurred.