

St Edmunds Church, Allestree

Our Safeguarding Policy

Our policy which has been approved by the PCC adopts the Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Policy which itself is based on the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy, 'Promoting a Safer Church'.

The reference guide to this document is kept by the Parish Safeguarding Officer but is also available online at www.derby.anglican.org/safeguarding

St Edmunds church is committed to promoting a safer environment and culture, safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church. We will respond promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation, care pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons and respond to those who may pose a present risk to others. However, the care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the church.

The Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO's), Louise Whittaker and Madeleine Fullerton have been nominated by the PCC to ensure that this happens. If anyone has any concerns or issues of a safeguarding nature, then please do not hesitate to contact Louise on 07948 819624 or louisesafeguarding@gmail.com or Madeleine on 01332 554762 or madeleine345@virginmedia.com.

The key aspects of the policy are:-

1. DBS checks on all relevant people involved with children, young people and vulnerable adults; and on the PCC, Clergy and Readers will be carried out according to the guidance in the Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Policy 'Promoting a Safer Church'.
2. Up to date Safeguarding Leadership training is a requirement for all those in leadership positions.
3. The PCC will review the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices annually with verbal Safeguarding updates to the PCC at every PCC meeting and with written reports to the PCC every six months.
4. The PCC will publish details of who to contact if there are safeguarding or support needs on the website, at the back of church and in the church hall.
5. The PCC recognises the right of whistleblowing by any individual.
6. If there is cause for concern, then the "Diocese of Derby Safeguarding: What to do if you have safeguarding concerns" flowchart should be followed. This can be found on the website, at the back of church and in the church hall.
7. The following groups which may involve children and/or vulnerable adults (see footnote) regularly use church facilities or are church groups working within the community and visiting children and vulnerable adults. The PCC is directly responsible for ensuring that this safeguarding policy is applied by all of them.
 - Baby and Toddler Group
 - Tuesday Luncheon Club
 - JACK (Jesus and Cool Kids)
 - Pastoral group

8. The PCC have also approved the following non- church groups which involve children and regularly use St. Edmund's facilities.
 - Brownies and Guides
 - Pre School group
 - Schools Out group
9. Each of these groups will ensure that they take every reasonable effort to ensure the safety and wellbeing of group members, based on Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Policy, 'Promoting a Safer Church'.
10. The leaders of these groups will ensure the completion of a registration form for each person who wishes to regularly attend and these forms are retained.
11. The PCC will ensure that all groups that take place on church premises are covered by the church insurance policy.
12. Any other hirers of the church hall and church users will be informed that they must take all reasonable measures to safeguard children and vulnerable adults in their care, and have an appropriate Safeguarding policy.

Footnote: Vulnerable Adults. The safeguarding duties apply to an adult who is deemed to be an adult at risk by virtue of :

- Has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs)
- Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect
- As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect. Care Act 2014