

St. James' Church. Alderholt.

Parish Policy Statement for Safeguarding Children & Young People & Adults who may be at Risk

The following policy was reviewed and agreed at the PCC meeting held on: 13th June 2019

- As members of St. James' PCC. we commit our church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all, especially the young and vulnerable, and we recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that all adults should be offered respect and given inclusion and empowerment within the church.
- We are committed to adopt and implement a safeguarding policy for adults when they are vulnerable, accepting as a minimum, the Salisbury Diocese Framework for Safeguarding and Good Practice (August 2016). St. James' will follow diocesan procedures and recommended good practice, while being responsive to local parish requirement.
- We recognise that our work with children and young people is the responsibility of the whole church community. We are fully committed to acting within current legislation, guidance, national frameworks and the Diocesan of Salisbury Safeguarding Framework and Good Practice Guidelines. At St. James' we will endeavour to act in an open, transparent and accountable way in working in partnership with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Children and Adult Social Care Services, the Police, Probation Service and other agencies to safeguard children, young people and adults, and assist in bringing to justice anyone who has committed an offence against them.
- We will ensure that all necessary checks are made to promote the safe selection and recruitment of ordained and lay ministers, paid workers and volunteers working with children, young people and adults, and to provide the necessary supervision, support and training for them in order that they can undertake their roles effectively.
- We will respond without delay to every concern raised that a child or young person may have been harmed or be at risk from harm or abuse or be at risk from the behaviour of an adult or child.
- We will fully cooperate with the Diocese and appropriate statutory agencies during any investigation into abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the church community
- We will ensure, in partnership with the Diocese and other agencies, that care and supervision is provided for any member of our church community known to have offended against a child or young person, or to pose a risk to them.
- We are committed to reviewing our safeguarding Policy annually, and as part of this, to check that our parish safeguarding procedures, including DBS checks, are up to date and relevant
- We will review and endorse all safeguarding policies annually, at the first meeting of the PCC following APCM, so that new members are aware of their responsibilities and confirm the existence of their parish policy on safeguarding adults when they are vulnerable.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that a vulnerable person for whom we have responsibility, may have been harmed.
- St. James' parish will cooperate fully with the statutory agencies in every situation and will not conduct their own investigations.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to any adult who has suffered abuse.
- We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended.
- St. James' Parochial Church Council acknowledges its responsibility for all who work with children, young adults and adults who may be at risk of abuse, that is done in the name of the Church. It requires all those engaged in such work to be properly appointed and supported in accordance with current good practice and guidelines as noted above.

The Parochial Church Council appoints Romey Schofield (romey@droompje.f9.co.uk /01425 654054) as Parish Safeguarding Representative and supports her in her role which is to:

- i) support and advise the Vicar, Ministers and Lay Workers in fulfilling their roles.
- ii) provide a point of reference to advise on safeguarding issues .
- iii) promote safeguarding best practice within the St. James' Church and its community.

Signed..... Revd

Signed..... Miss

PSR

Signed..... Mrs

Church Warden

Signed..... Mrs

Church Warden