

## **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, DEDWORTH SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT 2019**

### **Our vision**

Our vision for our church is to establish a safe, caring community which provides a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse. We hope to achieve this through the care, nurture and respectful pastoral ministry of all children and all adults. As members of this church we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all associated with the church and will pray for them regularly. In pursuit of this, we commit ourselves to this policy and to the development of sound procedures to ensure we implement our policy well.

### **Our safeguarding responsibilities**

We recognise our responsibilities in safeguarding all children, young people and adults at risk, regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability.

- **Prevention and reporting of abuse**

It is the duty of each church member to help prevent the abuse of children and adults at risk, and the duty of each church member to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and adults at risk. Any abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected will be reported in accordance with our procedures. The church will fully co-operate with investigations by statutory authorities into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

- **Safer recruitment, support and supervision of workers**

The church will carefully select and appoint those working with children and adults at risk, whether paid or voluntary, in line with the principles of safer recruitment, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service criminal record checks. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safekeeping of children and adults at risk.

- **Respecting children and adults at risk**

The church will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and adults at risk, so that all children and adults are shown the respect that is due to them.

- **Safer working practices**

The church is committed to providing an environment that is as safe as possible for children and adults at risk and will adopt ways of working with them that promote their safety and well-being.

- **A safer community**

The church is committed to the prevention of bullying. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any individuals who may pose a risk to children, young people and adults at risk in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

### **Safeguarding Team**

The church has appointed a Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to raise the profile of safeguarding within the church and oversee and monitor the implementation of the safeguarding policy and procedures on behalf of the PCC. They will liaise with the diocese and advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk and take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected and keep objective records. Our Church Wardens will assist the PSO. Our Parish Priest is also an important part of the Church Safeguarding Team. The Church Safeguarding Team will work together, if and when issues arise and will follow statute, guidance and recognised good practice, with due regard to the C of E's House of Bishops.

**Parish Priest: Rev. Nigel Richards**

**Church Warden: Andrew Giles**

**Parish Safeguarding Officer: Jackie Wiggins**

**Church Warden: Sue Morgan**