

# The Parish

## St Cuthbert's, Great Glen

### Child Safeguarding Policy Statement

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

The PCC affirms the principles of the House of Bishops' Policy for Safeguarding Children (contained in Protecting All God's Children) and is committed to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of the children and young people in its care. The PCC will:

- ▶ Appoint a Child Safeguarding Coordinator to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures. The coordinator will ensure that any concerns about a child or the behaviour of an adult are appropriately reported both to the statutory agencies and to the relevant Archdeacon. The Coordinator, if not a member of the PCC, will have the right to attend its meetings and will report to it at least annually on the implementation of this policy.
- ▶ Ensure that a person is nominated to act as somebody to whom children may talk to about any problems, if they so wish. This person will be known as the Independent Person or Children's Advocate and will, if possible, be somebody who is accessible to the children and who does not have responsibilities for children within the parish.
- ▶ Display in church premises where children's activities take place the contact details of the Coordinator and Independent Person/Children's Advocate, along with the Childline and Parentline telephone numbers and web addresses. A copy of this statement of policy will also be displayed in such places as well as the church.
- ▶ Ensure that all those authorised to work with children or who are in a position of authority are appropriately recruited according to safer recruitment practice in line with Church of England national policy, and are trained, resourced and supported. This will include providing them with a copy of this policy and of the Diocese of Leicester's Safeguarding Handbook.
- ▶ Ensure that all members of the PCC and all volunteers who work with children have completed a DBS check and the Basic and Foundation safeguarding training modules on the Church of England Safeguarding training website.
- ▶ Ensure that only authorized people work with children and that all work with children is carried out within appropriate accountability structures.
- ▶ Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children undertaken in the name of the parish.
- ▶ Review the implementation of the Safeguarding policy, procedures and practices at least annually.
- ▶ Work to create a culture of informed vigilance which takes children seriously.
- ▶ Pay particular attention to children with special needs and those from ethnic minorities to ensure their full integration and protection within the church community.
- ▶ Ensure that those who may pose a threat to children and young people are effectively managed and monitored.

- ▶ Ensure that a health and safety policy and the appropriate procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed periodically.
- ▶ Act without delay on allegations or suspicions of abuse using the procedure laid down by the Diocese of Leicester.
- ▶ Respond without delay to any complaints received regarding children's work or the safeguarding of children.
- ▶ Ensure that all new PCC members have access to this policy and the Diocese of Leicester Safeguarding Handbook so that they are aware of their responsibilities.
- ▶ Cooperate fully with investigations by statutory agencies and will not conduct its own investigations.
- ▶ Seek to offer informed pastoral care to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse.
- ▶ Care for and supervise any member of the church community known to have offended against a child while maintaining appropriate confidentiality.

**Our Independent Person/Children's Advocate\* whom children, youth workers and volunteers may talk to if they wish about any concerns is *Angela Allen* or *\*Child Advocate\**.**

They may be contacted at:

Telephone:

Angela 0116 259 3555 Independent Person Advocate

This policy statement will be renewed annually and progress in carrying it out will be monitored by the Safeguarding Coordinator who is: Rhianon Brooks.

They may be contacted at:

Telephone: 07985 597 253

Email: [rhianonbrooks@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rhianonbrooks@yahoo.co.uk)

**This statement was agreed by Parochial Church Council.**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024**



**Signed: Team Vicar**

**Signed: Churchwarden**