

All Saints' South Cave - Safeguarding Policy for Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

Church Details

Name of Church: All Saints Church

Parish (in Benefice of) South Cave with Ellerker and Broomfleet

Address All Saints Church, Church Hill, South Cave

Child Protection Representative

The JCC has appointed the following person to be Parish / Benefice Child Protection Representative to whom any allegation or concerns about abuse should be directed. The nominated person is NOT normally one of those directly working with children and young people. They will follow the guidelines and procedures for responding to any allegations of abuse.

Parish CP Representative: Mrs Claire Wood

Address: Howden Croft, Howden Croft Hill, Ellerker, HU15 2DE

Telephone: 01430 424474 / 07932 122057

Vulnerable Adults Representative

The JCC has appointed the following person to be Parish / Benefice Vulnerable adults Protection Representative to whom any allegation or concerns about abuse should be directed. The nominated person is NOT normally one of those directly working with children and young people. They will follow the guidelines and procedures for responding to any allegations of abuse.

Parish Vulnerable Adults Representative: The Rev. Professor Peter Draper

Address: 122 The Stray, South Cave, East Yorkshire HU15 2AL

Telephone: 01430 425486 / 07956 531002

A SIGNED AND DATED COPY OF THIS POLICY MUST BE SENT ANNUALLY TO THE YORK DIOCESAN SECRETARY.

Safeguarding Policy for Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

Based on the York Diocese Parish / Benefice Child Protection Policy 2013

This church recognises and values children, young people (anyone under the age of 18) and vulnerable adults as equal partners in the life and ministry of the church, and desires to encourage them to explore, discover and live out the Christian Gospel. The Joint Church Council (hereafter JCC) takes seriously its obligations and responsibilities to protect and safeguard the welfare of any child or young person (i.e. under the age of 18 years) and vulnerable adults entrusted to the church's care.

For the purposes of this policy a vulnerable adult is defined as:

Someone who is aged 18 or over and who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and who is, or may be, unable to protect himself/herself from significant harm of exploitation.

Therefore in the church's provision and ministry, the JCC:

1. Accepts responsibility for the activities of the children's and youth groups operating under its auspices.
2. Will actively seek to protect and safeguard the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults while in the care of the church.
3. Will have clear procedures for responding to suspicions or allegations about abuse, or inappropriate behaviours towards children, young people and vulnerable adults by any member of the church, and procedures for working with known offenders attending the church.
4. Will ensure that both employed and volunteer children's and youth workers and all other persons working within the church who may have contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults through this work are properly and appropriately selected and appointed as set out in the recruitment process document.
5. Will ensure that children's/youth workers and volunteers are given adequate support and training.
6. Will annually appoint a Parish Child Protection Representative and Parish Vulnerable Adult Representative.
7. Will annually review the Parish Safeguarding Policy and procedures.
8. Will maintain appropriate Third Party Liability insurance for the church work among children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Commitment to Children and Young People

In accepting the Safeguarding Policy, the JCC as agent of the whole church family in this Parish and within the Diocese of York is also committed:

A: To the children by:

- Listening to and valuing children and young people.
- Relating to children and young people effectively and appropriately.
- Ensuring their protection and minimizing risk of harm by their involvement in any church or related activities, both at the normal meeting place and when away from the normal meeting place.
- Encouraging and supporting children, parents and carers.
- Providing safe, relevant and engaging children's and youth work of the highest quality possible and within the resources available.

We also aim to include vulnerable adults in the above statements where appropriate.

B: To workers, volunteers and the Child Protection & Vulnerable Adult Representatives by:

- Giving and enabling appropriate support and training.
- Providing clear systems and procedures for dealing with concerns or allegations about abuse.
- Providing clear systems and procedures for the recruitment of workers and volunteers, including an Allegations of Child Abuse or Unsuitability to Work with Children Policy.
- Maintaining good links with Diocesan and statutory childcare authorities as necessary.

Appendix 1: Recruitment of Children and Youth Leaders, including DBS Disclosure:

The following will also apply in the instance of recruiting someone to work with vulnerable adults.

Great care will be exercised in the appointment of suitable workers and volunteers to the church's work with children and young people. The JCC has adopted the use of "Diocese of York Guide to Disclosure through the Disclosure and Barring Service". Where access to children is regular, expected or significant (i.e. a key part of their role even if they are not in regularly contact with children), the Diocesan policy and procedures will be strictly adhered to.

In Brief: (see Guide to Disclosure)

Anyone involved in the church's work with children and young people in this parish/benefice must:

1. Provide proof of their identity. (e.g.: Passport, Birth Certificate)
2. Provide 2 referees (who have known the applicant for at least 3 years)
3. Complete a 'Declaration Form' in accordance with The Children Act 1989 and Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974/5
4. Obtain an up to date and satisfactory 'Enhanced Disclosure' check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

NOTE: Where a person has only occasional contact with young people, such as a supervised steward or helper at occasional events, the volunteer only need provide proof of identity, 2 referees and complete the Confidential Declaration Form. Any increased involvement will necessitate a DBS Enhanced Disclosure to be carried out.

Refer to the Diocese of York guide to Disclosure through Disclosure and Barring Service document issued 2008.

Appendix 2: Safeguarding Policy – Definitions of Abuse

The JCC recognises the following categories of abuse used by every Local Authority in England and Wales.

Neglect: Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
- protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers)
- ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.
- be responsive to a child's basic emotional needs.

Physical Abuse: Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

Sexual Abuse: Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, including prostitution, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including penetrative (e.g. rape, buggery or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts. They may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual online images, watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

Emotional Abuse: Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying, causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

Organised Abuse: Organised abuse is defined as abuse involving one or more abusers and a number of children. The abusers concerned may be acting in concert to abuse children, sometimes acting in isolation, or may be using an institutional framework or position of authority to recruit children for abuse.

Financial or Material Abuse: This includes theft, fraud, exploitation, pressure in connection with wills, property or inheritance or financial transactions, the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits, damage or threats of damage to property.

Discriminatory abuse: This includes racist or sexist opinions or opinions based on an individual's disability or other forms of harassment, taunts or similar treatment.

A child, young person or vulnerable adult may suffer more than one category of abuse

Any of these forms of abuse can be either deliberate or be the result of ignorance or lack of training, knowledge or understanding.

People who pose a risk to Children

If there is good reason to believe that someone attending the church may pose a risk to children, either as a result of a criminal conviction or for any other reason, the first concern will be a commitment to the protection of all children and young people. Whilst extending appropriate pastoral care to an individual, the Incumbent and Church Wardens (or authorised agent such as the Rural Dean), will discuss with the Diocese Child Protection Officer then meet with the individual and discuss boundaries that the person will be expected to keep. A written agreement will be appropriate in such cases, and the JCC Child Protection Representative and Diocese Child Protection Officer informed and supplied with a copy of the written agreement.

Appendix 3: Child Protection – Procedures for Referrals:

The role of Church members and nominated JCC Child Protection Representative in the event of an allegation or suspicion of abuse is as follows:

In the information below the term ‘disclosing party’ refers to a child, young person or vulnerable adult

- Church members, including children’s and youth work leaders and volunteers, may have concerns about possible or actual inappropriate conduct or abuse, which may have occurred within a church setting or within another context, but which is drawn to their attention in a church setting; in either event the following procedures should be observed.
- The role of a church member is not to investigate beyond establishing the basic facts so that a decision can be made about what further action, if any, needs to be taken (such as a referral to the investigating agencies).
- Allow the child or vulnerable adult to speak, but be very careful not to say anything that may suggest or prompt a particular answer. Anything said by the disclosing party should be recorded, using the actual words used by the disclosing party.
- Reassure the disclosing party that you are listening carefully to them, but refrain from promising to ‘keep a secret’. Make it clear that you may have to tell someone else who can help to sort things out.
- Concerns or an allegation must be shared with the nominated JCC Child Protection or Vulnerable Adult Representative as soon as possible, or in their absence, with either the Incumbent or Church Warden or another trusted adult, or with the Archdeacon. If the concern or allegation is about any of these people DO NOT share the concern with them. The concerns MUST be recorded, as must decisions of how to proceed, including rationale for those decisions and consultation with any other persons.
- If both are satisfied that the concerns are unfounded, you need take no further action. However, the aforementioned record MUST be kept, and a copy should be forwarded to the Archdeacon.
- If the concern is a childcare issue (i.e. not thought to be abuse related, but where the parents/carer or child may need support from relevant agencies), the nominated JCC Child Protection Representative should make a referral to Social Services. However to do this will require parental permission. Seek further advice from Social Services or the Archdeacon
- If concerns remain the nominated JCC Child Protection or Vulnerable Adult Representative should contact the Archdeacon
- If there are concerns that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm or is in immediate danger of harm, then a referral to Social Services or the Police should be made at once by the Church member or the Child Protection Representative. Clearly state that you are making a “Child Protection Referral”. Identify yourself and the Church you are representing. You must also advise the Archdeacon.
- Any concerns in relation to child protection issues should be logged and retained securely by the Diocesan Secretary.

- The JCC Child Protection Representative should support any church member raising or reporting a concern or allegation and make sure that the above procedures have been carried out appropriately.
- Unless it is inappropriate in view of the nature of the allegation, the incumbent or Church Wardens should be informed of any referral being made as well as the Archdeacon. Do not discuss with anyone else.
- Careful consideration should also be given as to whether the Parish's insurers should be contacted and advised of the incident or allegation.
- If the JCC Representative is unsure, or feels they need to take further advice, they should contact the Archdeacon in the first instance, Social Services or alternatively the Churches Child Protection Advisory Service Helpline.
- In the event of the Archdeacon being unavailable within a reasonable time, another of the Archdeacons should be contacted. Alternatively telephone the Churches Child Protection Advisory Service Help Line. (See useful telephone numbers)

Appendix 4: Policy Adoption

This policy is adopted and will be reviewed annually by the JCC of

All Saints Church, South Cave

Signed:

(Incumbent)

(Church Warden)

Print Name:

(Incumbent)

(Church Warden)

Date:

Useful Telephone numbers:

- Archdeacon** The Venerable Andy Broom - 01482 881659
- Churches Child Protection Advisory Service Helpline:** 0845 1204450
- Social Services** (Customer Services – ask for Child Protection) - 01482 395500
- Local Police:** 111

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group (NB: Contact with the EIG should only be undertaken following discussion with the Archdeacon or Diocesan Secretary if it is with regard to a confidential child protection related complaint or concern)

Write to:

The Managing Director
Ecclesiastical Insurance Group
Beaufort House
Brunswick Road
Gloucester
GL1 1JZ

and marked "Strictly Private and Confidential"

If it is an emergency telephone. 01452 528533

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