



Cranbrook
Church

Safeguarding Policy Statement

Statement of Safeguarding Principles

The Cranbrook Church Core Team fully recognises and accepts the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy Statement "Promoting a Safer Church 2017" and commits to complying with the current Church of England and Diocesan safeguarding policies and practice guidance. In doing so we will comply with the secular multi-agency safeguarding procedures relating to children, young people and vulnerable adults experiencing or at risk of harm, abuse or neglect.

We are committed to:

- promoting a safer environment and culture within our Church community and in our Church activities by adhering to safe working practices and we acknowledge the principle that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

In addition, we will ensure any individual/organisation renting/using our premises for activities involving children, young people or vulnerable adults is aware both of our Safeguarding Policy and of their own responsibility to have appropriate safeguarding policies and processes in place (including safer recruitment).

- safely recruiting and supporting those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the Church, in accordance with the House of Bishops' Safer Recruitment: Practice Guidance 2016.

Specifically, we will ensure those appointed are aware of Diocesan and Parish Safeguarding Policies and also aware of their role and responsibilities. We will support them by ensuring they receive Diocesan safeguarding training at a level appropriate for their role and that they are fully aware of and have access to the practice guidance.

- responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation in accordance with the statutory child and adult safeguarding procedures and the House of Bishops' safeguarding practice guidance.

We will thus ensure any complaint made regarding a vulnerable person who may have been harmed or be in significant danger will be reported immediately and we will fully cooperate with statutory agencies during any investigation into allegations concerning a member of the church community or any other person.

- caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.

In this, we will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and/or isolation and we will seek to provide them with details of local and national support agencies.

- caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.

In this, we will work with others to ensure the appropriate support is offered to them and those affected. Where that person is considered to pose a risk to others we will work as a matter of urgency with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor to mitigate any identified risk.

- responding to those who may pose a present risk to others.

In this, we will endeavor to offer pastoral care and support whilst ensuring any risk has been assessed and is being managed in accordance with House of Bishops' policy and guidance and in collaboration with the statutory agencies and the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor.

Safeguarding Representative

We will ensure an identified person/s is/are appointed to be the Church Safeguarding Representative/s (CSR). They will be suitably recruited and trained such that they are fully aware of their role and responsibilities, and they will be the first point of contact for any concerns.

We have appointed **Becky Powell** as our Church Safeguarding Representative.

Copies of Diocesan and parish guidelines and procedures are held can be accessed at www.cranbrookchurch.org/safeguarding.

This policy will be formally reviewed annually, and a copy shared with the Archdeacon at the time of the Visitation.

Cranbrook Church Core Team agreed and adopted the above Policy at its meeting on **14 Mar 2023**.

This policy will be reviewed annually. Date of next review: **15 Mar 2024**

Signed

Vicar: Jon Holder

Core Team: Jude Carter

Core Team: Cathy Hill

Date 15 Mar 2023