

St PETER & St PAUL NORTHLEACH

POLICY STATEMENT PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH WORKING WITH CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS

The Parochial Church Council of St Peter & St Paul, Northleach accepts the House of Bishops Policy "Promoting a Safer Church" and our church is therefore committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

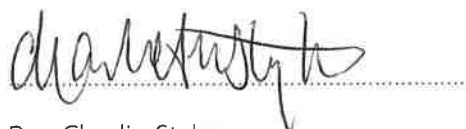
The PCC will:

- I. Create a safe and caring place for all.
- II. Ensure that everyone involved in the care of children, young people and adults, whether through paid employment or volunteer positions, is made personally aware of the House of Bishops Policy and the PCC policy.
- III. Ensure that everyone involved in the care of children, young people and adults is clear of the nature of the work they have agreed to do and the name of the person to whom they are responsible.
- IV. Nominate Angie Leach to be the Nominated Person who will administer and monitor this policy on behalf of the PCC, and to whom all cases of suspected or alleged abuse must be reported immediately.
- V. Ensure that all those currently involved in the care of children, young people and adults, and all candidates for new paid posts and volunteer positions, are interviewed by the parish priest or Nominated Person and asked to complete a Confidential Declaration and a Personal Details Form¹.

¹ These forms are available from the Safeguarding section of the Diocesan website.

- XVIII. Ensure that a copy of this policy is displayed on the parish notice board and website alongside a ChildLine poster, and will make a copy of this policy available to all employees and volunteers of the parish, and to parents and guardians.
- XIX. Review this policy annually and risk assessments at the Autumn PCC meeting and ensure that a copy of this policy is presented to the Archdeacon at the Visitation.

Adopted by the PCC at its meeting on



Rev Charlie Styles



A Leach Safeguarding Officer

Supporting Documents:

House of Bishops Policy (Promoting a Safer Church)

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-12/PromotingSaferChurchWeb.pdf>

Diocesan Safeguarding Guidance and Policies

<https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/about-us/safeguarding/guidance-and-policies/>

9. The Diocese will ensure that clergy and nominated local people are kept informed of changes in law, process etc – and that training is available for those who are responsible for/oversee local parish safeguarding practices.
10. The Diocese of Gloucester will seek to ensure that each paid post or volunteer position for which it is asked to act in the disclosure process is assessed for the appropriateness of a DBS disclosure. That any advertisement or other indication of an employment or volunteering opportunity will indicate where appropriate the level of disclosure that will be sought, and that the conditional nature of any offer of employment or volunteering role until the receipt of satisfactory disclosure information is clearly indicated.
11. The Diocese of Gloucester will seek to ensure that a candidate for a paid post or volunteer position for which it acts is asked in writing to list any convictions, or other disqualifying behaviour, that might be revealed in the disclosure process. This is in order to assist the recruitment decision process and in the knowledge that it will only be taken into account when relevant to the post in question. Also, that the candidate should be invited to submit any conviction or related information in writing prior to interview in an envelope clearly marked 'Private and Confidential' which should be handed to the person specifically identified for this purpose in the recruitment process.
12. The Diocese of Gloucester is committed to a process of five-year rechecking of employees and volunteers for whom this is appropriate, as part of its ongoing strategy for the protection of children and vulnerable adults.
13. The Diocese of Gloucester is committed to the safe storage and disposal of disclosure information in line with such guidance as may from time to time be provided by the Disclosure and Barring Service and in line with Data Protection requirements.
14. The Diocese of Gloucester is committed to the fair and sensitive use of disclosure information and will take every step to ensure that it, and those for whom it acts as an umbrella body, seek to achieve and maintain models of best practice. Where an applicant feels that disclosure information has not been handled in a fair and sensitive way an appeal process will be available, details of which can be obtained in writing from the Diocesan Human Resources Manager at Church House, Gloucester.
15. The Diocese of Gloucester will work closely with local churches to care for and supervise through appropriate contracts of behaviour, any member of our church community known to have offended against a child.