



## Team Safeguarding Policy

As Christians, “faithful to our call to share the Gospel of God’s salvation through Jesus Christ, we welcome all, with a particular regard for those who are most vulnerable, into a community where the value and dignity of every human being is affirmed, and those in positions of responsibility and authority are truly trustworthy.” *Promoting a Safer Church 2017*

**The Shaftesbury Team Ministry** adopts the Church of England Safeguarding Policy “Promoting a Safer Church” and is committed to:

**the care and nurture** of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults who come into contact with us as church;

**the safeguarding and protection** of all children, young people and vulnerable adults, remembering that people can be vulnerable at different times in their lives;

**the establishment of safe, caring church communities** which provide a loving, inclusive environment by raising the general awareness of what constitutes abuse and how it might present, and where all members accept a responsibility to be vigilant to the potential for abuse, and the appropriate action to take ~~if it occurs~~.

**We will carefully select, train and support** all those with any responsibility for vulnerable groups within our churches, in line with the principles and procedures set out in “Practice Guidance: Safer Recruitment,” including the use of criminal record disclosures and vetting procedures.

Each church will have in place a safeguarding policy which they should review and re-adopt each year. They should also appoint a Church Safeguarding Officer (CSO)

We will help our churches to work in accordance with current National and Diocesan guidelines for best practice when working with all vulnerable groups.

We will endeavour to keep abreast of research and policy developments in good safeguarding practice and disseminate any updates or changes to our churches through the CSOs

**We will respond without delay** to every complaint, disclosure or observation made which suggests that a child, young person or adult may have been harmed, and co-operate with the police and local authority in any investigation.

**We will seek to ensure that anyone who has suffered abuse**, is offered pastoral support that meets their needs, with reference to other agencies as required.

**We will challenge any abuse of power**, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

**We will, with the advice of the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, seek to offer pastoral care** and support, including supervision and referral to relevant authorities, to any member of our church known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

We will at all times follow legislation, Church of England guidance and recognised good practice.

Each church will keep a Safeguarding file containing copies of National and Diocesan policies and guidelines, along with other documents and information that guide our policy and practice. The Church Safeguarding Officer will keep it up to date with the help of the Team Safeguarding Officer and ensure it is available to all those who may need to consult it. (Nothing confidential)

This policy was reviewed and adopted by the Shaftesbury Team Council at their meeting

On 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018.....

Signed J. S. Dawe.....

Team Rector

To be reviewed October 2019.....

EP09/2018f