

**SAINT MARY
NEWINGTON**



**KENNINGTON
LONDON SE11 4JQ**



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SAFEGUARDING POLICY

CLERGY, PCC, AND ALL LEADERS AT ST MARY'S WILL ENDEAVOUR TO:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Anyone leading church activities / all external groups who use the premises must sign an agreement to the following:

1. You will comply with the Guidelines for Activities with children and young people/adults who may be vulnerable as attached
2. You will provide the church with a copy of your organization's Safeguarding Children/ Safeguarding Adults who may be vulnerable policy, and review and update it annually
3. You will recruit safely all current paid and voluntary workers who have regular and direct contact with children and adults who may be vulnerable, by obtaining from them and storing confidentially and indefinitely, a signed Confidential Declaration, and obtaining satisfactory enhanced 'DBS' from the Disclosure and Barring Service
4. You will keep a list of the names of all paid and voluntary workers with regular and direct contact with children/adults who may be vulnerable, and update it annually
5. You will always have at least two leaders in any group of children and young people, no matter how small the group
6. No person under the age of 18 years will be left in charge of children of any age
7. No child or group of children or young people should be left unattended in any area of the church at any time, even if there are adults in other rooms.
8. A register of children or adults who may be vulnerable attending the activity will be kept. This will include details of their name, address, date of birth and next of kin
9. You will immediately (within 24 hours) inform the Parish Safeguarding Officer of any allegations of abuse or causes of concern relating to members or leaders of your church; and any known offenders seeking to join your membership and manage such allegations or agreements with offenders in co-operation with statutory agencies, and with the church.
10. If you believe someone to be in danger you will immediately contact the police and any other relevant authorities and stake holders.