

ST PETER'S CHURCH FORSBROOK

SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church. Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play in promoting a Safer Church for all

The following Policy was ratified and adopted at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on the 22 September 2025.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is 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 Parish will:

- 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, including Disclosure and Barring Service checks where the role is eligible, 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.

- In conjunction with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, 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.
- Adopt the National and Diocesan Safeguarding Policies and is committed to following the procedures and practice guidance contained within these.
- Ask all groups who hire the Church rooms to provide a copy of their Safeguarding Policy, if they do not have their own Policy, the PCC will present their own Safeguarding Policy for them to adopt and implement.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Mrs Joan Pritchard as the Parish Safeguarding Officer to work with the Incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedure.

Activities undertaken in the name of St Peter's Parochial Church Council

Pre School Children:

Tiddlers Group

Children and Young People:

Alpha Youth (not active)

Holiday Activities

Holiday Club

Light Night

Messy Church

Residential Trips (not active)

Transportation of children and young people to events

X:cite (Sunday School)

X:Cite Night

X:Cite Youth

Youth Events

Schools Work - Primary Schools:

Assemblies

Open the Book

Spiritual Days

St Peter's Day

Schools Work - Blythe Bridge High School:

Open House Course

Year 7 Christmas Assembly

All the children and youth groups will follow the recommended ratios of adults:children/young people as a minimum:

0-2 years of age	1:3
2-3 years of age	1:4
4-8 years of age	1:6
9-12 years of age	1:8
13-18 years of age	1:10

Adults:

CAMEO

Welcome Hub

Useful Contacts in relation to Safeguarding Issues

Parish Safeguarding Officer – Joan Pritchard	01782 395616
Parish Priest – Revd Jonathan Roberts	07739 737502
Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser – Neil Spiring - Out of hours emergency number Thirtyone:eight	01543 306147 0303 003 1111 (Option 2)
Area Bishop – Rt Revd Matthew Parker	01782 373308
Stop it Now! Helpline	0808 1000 900
Samaritans	116 123
Childline	0800 1111
NSPCC	0808 800 5000
Safe Spaces (where abuse was by a Church of England Minister, Volunteer or worker)	0300 303 1056
Domestic Violence Helpline	0808 2000 247
Staffordshire Police	101 Emergency 999
Local Authority Children's Social Care: Staffordshire	0800 1313126 Out of Hours: 0345 604 2719
Stoke on Trent	0800 561 0015 Out of Hours: 01782 234234
Local Authority Adult Social Care Staffordshire/Stoke	0345 604 2719 Out of Hours: 0345 604 2719

POLICY REVIEWED BY THE PCC ON THE 14 SEPTEMBER 2026

NEXT REVIEW DATE: SEPTEMBER 2027