

SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

BEDWORTH PARISH

- Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. This implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.
- We accept and endorse the principles set out in the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance, and the Church of England Birmingham's Safeguarding Policies.
- We commit ourselves to nurture, protect and safeguard all our members, particularly children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- We recognise that safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole church community.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the selection, appointment, training and support of those working in both paid and voluntary positions with children or vulnerable adults, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) disclosures and making appropriate referrals to the Disclosure and Barring Service.
- We will respond without delay to concerns or allegations that a child or vulnerable adult may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and social care services in any investigation.
- We will challenge any abuse of power by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them appropriate pastoral support.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

Full copies of "Safeguarding and Safe Recruitment Policies can be found online:

http://www.dioceseofcoventry.org/?page_ref=1381

Who can I speak to?

If you have any concerns around the welfare of a child or adult, you should speak to:

Rev. David Poultney
rector@bedworthparish.org

Mrs Ruth Ison
safeguarding@bedworthparish.org

If you would prefer to speak with someone outside the church, the Bishop's Advisers for Safeguarding can be contacted:

Phone number: **024 7652 1345**

Email: safeguarding@covcofe.org

Cathedral and Diocesan Offices, 1 Hill Top, Coventry CV1 5AB