

This statement was adopted by St. Mary's, Stretton with Claymills by the Parochial Church Council on 27th July 2024

1. This policy will be reviewed each year to monitor the progress that has been achieved. We recognize that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that each of us may be regarded as vulnerable at some time in our lives.

- We recognise that a position of power in relation to another creates a risk of vulnerability. As a consequence, we strive to ensure that we consider power dynamics when working and leading with people.
- We recognise that children by virtue of legal status and their dependency on adults for their emotional and physical needs will always be vulnerable and at a disadvantage. We commit to considering this in our children's activities – undertaking supervision of staff working with them and risk assessing activities and groups as a check and balance in our work.
- We understand that illness, disability, race, mental health and other issues can put adults in a position of vulnerability. We accept that these can be long term (ongoing), or temporary. We commit to considering this in our adults' activities and events – undertaking supervision of staff and risk assessing activities and groups as a check and balance in our work.
- We commit to transparency in our actions and accountability for our work.

2. As members of this parish we commit ourselves to respectful pastoral care for all adults and children to whom we minister.

- We will consider issues relating to spiritual care in prayer activity, ensuring that those who pray with others consider power, control and the possibility of spiritual abuse issues in their ministry.
- We will ensure that leaders of our children's Sunday schools and house groups as well as other ministries that involve working with vulnerable persons have appropriate enhanced DBS checks.
- We will ensure that those who care for people in our parish attend appropriate safeguarding training.
- We commit to discuss safeguarding and support of safeguarding as a standing PCC agenda item
- Those who use our Church Hall, working with children and/or vulnerable adults will also need to carry out appropriate DBS checks which will be verified before they are able to hire the Centre.

3. We commit ourselves to the safeguarding of people who may be vulnerable, ensuring their well-being in the life of this church.

- We will ensure that our activities particularly provided for children, vulnerable and older members of the community are carried out in line with our safeguarding policy.

- We have zero tolerance to abuse and put the welfare of vulnerable children and adults first.
- We take seriously training and activities relating to the safeguarding of children and seek to ingrain this in our congregational culture.

7. We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with people who may be vulnerable.

- Our incumbent undertakes to ensure that to the best of his or her knowledge all PCC members, wardens and ministry leaders are of good standing.
- The PCC undertakes to appoint and provide training for a dedicated Safeguarding Co-ordinator.
- The Safeguarding Co-ordinator undertakes to maintain a relationship with diocese level safeguarding team and ensure that this policy is followed.

8. The parish is committed to supporting, resourcing, training and regularly reviewing those who undertake work amongst people who may be vulnerable.

- The PCC undertakes to appoint and provide training for a dedicated Safeguarding Co-ordinator.
- The Safeguarding Co-ordinator undertakes to maintain a relationship with diocese level safeguarding team and ensure that this policy is followed.

9. The parish adopts the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese.

- The Parish will report and record in line with Diocese policies and comply with local guidance's for implementing national policies as defined in diocese polices. These include the diocese safeguarding policy, recording with care policy, social media policy and safer recruitment policy.

10. Each person who works with vulnerable people will agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this church.

- Those working with vulnerable adults or children will sign a declaration to state that they have read and agree to abide by the points outlined in this policy. This church appoints **Andrea Tabberer** to represent the concerns and views of vulnerable people at our meetings and to outside bodies as Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator.

Incumbent**In Vacancy**.....

Churchwarden.....

~~Churchwarden~~

Date.....