



Parish Safeguarding Statement

Policy statement on the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults

Holy Cross Church Parish of Felsted

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Felsted Holy Cross Church takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

The PCC and Incumbent are together responsible for ensuring that the House of Bishops' safeguarding policies and procedures are implemented.

For the purposes of this document a child is anyone under the age of eighteen years.

Policy

The Felsted Holy Cross Church PCC has adopted the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy 'Promoting a Safer Church' (2017)

1. A copy of the full relevant policy is obtainable on the Diocese of Chelmsford's website www.chelmsford.anglican.org/safeguarding
2. The Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) at Holy Cross Church is James Mackin and has been appointed by the PCC.

Statement of Commitment

This safeguarding policy statement makes six overarching policy commitments:

- 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.

To bring this about we will:

- Formally adopt the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy
- 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

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

If in doubt about any safeguarding matter contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team (DST) whose job it is to offer advice, guidance and support in all situations in which a child or adult may be at risk. For this purpose the DST can be contacted at any time on:

01245 294444

Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

James Mackin
Taverners Barn, Crix Green, Felsted, Dunmow CM6 3JT
01245 361262

Diocesan Safeguarding Team (DST)

01245 294444 (24/7)
safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org

Contact Details for Safeguarding Organisations/Charities

<https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-contacts>