

HOLY TRINITY PLATT

Policy Statement on Children and Young People & Vulnerable Adults

This statement was agreed at the Parochial Church Council meeting held on 19th March 2019 and revised in May 2023.

- As members of this church, we commit ourselves to the care, nurture of, protection and safekeeping of all, especially children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- 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.
- It is the responsibility of each one of us to seek to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children, young people and vulnerable adults in our care and to swiftly report any abuse discovered or suspected to the appropriate statutory agencies.
- We recognise that our work with children, young people and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the whole church. And we are committed to establishing safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse.
- We are committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who work with children, young people and vulnerable adults and to providing supervision.
- We are committed to following the guidelines and procedures published in the Diocesan handbook 'Parish Safeguarding Handbook: Promoting a Safer Church' (2018). We will adopt good practice guidelines.
- Each worker with children, young people and vulnerable adults is carefully selected and must know Platt's Good Practice Guidelines and undertake to follow them. All will undertake safer recruitment procedures including obtaining criminal record disclosures as appropriate to the role and task being undertaken, to check the background of each person.
- Children, young people and vulnerable adults are an important part of our church today. They have much to give as well as receive.
- As we nurture them in worship, learning and in community life, we will respect the wishes and feelings of Children, Young People & vulnerable adults. We will listen and support them all to encourage them to be fully involved in the church community.
- We will supervise any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, working alongside statutory agencies as appropriate.
- As part of our commitment to children and young people, the Parochial Church Council has appointed Denis Colligan to be the Parish Safeguarding Office (PSO). The Safeguarding Team is made up of Denis Colligan, Sarah Bradley and Paul Mathole. The team are accountable to the Parochial Church Council for the implementation and monitoring of our Good Practice Guidelines.

Anyone having any concerns relating to safeguarding matters should speak to the PSO or the team. The team can be contacted via email at safeguarding@plattchurch.org.

A copy of our Good Practice Guidelines can be obtained from the Church Office (0161 224 1123)