

Form

Model Policy Statement on Safeguarding

To be displayed in a prominent place

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY STATEMENT

Name of Place of worship: __The Parish of Witney_____

The following statement was agreed by the leadership/organisation* on: __18 November 2015_____

- This place of worship/organisation* is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and ensuring their well-being.
- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise that the personal dignity and rights of vulnerable adults and will ensure all our policies and procedures will reflect this.
- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the place of worship/organisation.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with children and vulnerable adults.
- We believe every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that children we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.

We are committed to:

- Following statutory denominational and specialist guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults and will ensure that as a place of worship/organisation all workers will work within the agreed procedure of our safeguarding policy.
- Implementing the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005 and all other relevant legislation.
- Supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake this work.
- Ensuring that we are keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this place of worship/organisation.
- Supporting all in the place of worship/organisation affected by abuse.

We recognise:

- Children's Social Services has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a vulnerable adult.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We will review this statement and our policy annually.

If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding co-ordinators for this place of worship/organisation.

___ Alison Spicer - __01993 773931 _____ Safeguarding Co-Ordinator

___ Pauline Plumbe - __01993 778576 _____ Deputy Safeguarding Co-Ordinator

A copy of this place of worship's policy can be seen at
The Parish Office
Church Green
Witney
OX28 4AW _____

Signed by leadership/organisation*

Signed __ T.C. Wright _____ __ Team Rector _____

__ C. Tremain _____ __ Churchwarden _____

Date __ 18 November 2015 _____

*delete as appropriate