

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Holy Trinity Church, Meldreth activities is the responsibility of the whole church.

Everyone who participates in the life of the church has a role to play in promoting a safer church for all.

We follow the Church of England's, "Promoting a Safer Church" (2017) statement, House of Bishops' Policy (2010) and the Diocese of Ely Policy and Procedures (2016) Holy Trinity Church will:

- Promote the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- Work to prevent abuse from occurring.
- Seek to protect those that are at risk of being abused.
- Respond well to those that have been abused.
- Take care to identify where a person may present a risk to others and offer support to them whilst taking steps to mitigate such risks.

Recruitment and Training:

We will carefully select, train and support all those with any responsibility within Holy Trinity in line with safer recruitment principles:

- Ensure that our recruitment and selection processes are inclusive, fair, consistent and transparent.
- Take all reasonable steps to prevent those who might harm children or adults from taking up a position of respect, responsibility authority where they are trusted by others
- Disclosure and Barring Service checks for those working regularly or substantially with children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- Promoting training. Every new member of staff or volunteer will be required to complete CO, a basic Safeguarding awareness course online.

<https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/login/index.php>

- Provide access to additional training for those who have responsibility or contact with children, young people or adults who may be vulnerable or at risk.

All those working on behalf of the parish have agreed to comply with the safeguarding policy and with good practice guidelines for their work.

Care and Response:

We respond without delay to any complaint that a child or vulnerable adult in our care may have been harmed by the behaviour of an employee or volunteer working on behalf of the Church.

We will:

- Seek advice on such matters from outside the church.
- Co-operate with statutory agencies during any enquiries that need to be made into allegations against a member of the church community.
- Support those making an allegation and those against whom an allegation has been made.
- We seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to any child or adult whose life has been affected by abuse, whether the abuse was recent or long ago.

This church wishes to welcome and support all members of its community. Those who have a history of offences against children or vulnerable adults, and/or who may pose a risk to them, are offered a supportive agreement to help them take part in church life; they are supported pastorally, and boundaries are set to protect those who might be vulnerable within the church.

Confidential safeguarding agreements are the responsibility of the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser and the incumbent, who work together.

Recruitment of ex-offenders:

Holy Trinity church actively promotes equality of opportunity for all with the right mix of talent, skills and potential and welcome applications from a wide range of candidates, including those with criminal records.

As an organisation assessing applicants' suitability for positions which are included in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order using criminal record checks processed through the Disclosure and Barring Service(DBS), Holy Trinity complies fully with the DBS code of practice and undertakes to treat all applicants for position fairly.

CONTACTS

If you have any concerns, please contact someone.

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser Rebecca Boswell	01353 652731 Rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org
Diocesan Safeguarding Officer Sarah King	01353 652735 Sarah.king@elydiocese.org
Vicar Rev Lizzie Shipp	01763 220626 Vicar.melbournmeldreth@gmail.com
Parish Safeguarding Officer Bernice Gregory	07507863232 01763 261950 bernicegregory@aol.com
Police	Dial 101 Dial 999 in an emergency
Cambridge Council	0345 045 5203 (office hours) 01733 234724 (out of hours)

Helplines:

Child Line (support and advice for children)

www.childline.org.uk

Tel: 0800 1111

NSPCC (for adult worried about a child)

www.nspcc.org.uk

Tel: 080 800 5000

Stop it Now/Lucy Faithfull Foundation

(For an adult worried about their own behaviour or another's behaviour towards children)

www.stopitnow.org.uk

Tel: 0808 1000 900

We regularly review and update our safeguarding policy, and we welcome comments from those using our service on how we could improve our awareness and safeguarding practices.

Adopted by PCC on.....

Signed.....

The next review of this policy is due in: *(two years from above date)*

