

Policy Statement for the Safeguarding of Children and Adults

Parish of St. Matthew's Bridgemary & St Thomas the Apostle, Elson

The following policy statement was agreed at the PCC meeting held on **11th July 2018**

As members of the PCC we commit our church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all, especially the young and vulnerable. We recognise that our work with children, young people and adults who may be at risk is the responsibility of the whole church community and are fully committed to acting within current legislation, guidance, national frameworks and the Diocesan Safeguarding procedures.

1. We will ensure that all the necessary checks are made to promote the safe selection and recruitment of those who work with vulnerable groups, and provide the necessary supervision, support and training to them in order that they can undertake their roles effectively.
2. We will respond without delay to concerns raised about a child, young person or adult who may have been harmed, or be at risk from harm.
3. We will fully co-operate with the Diocese and appropriate statutory agencies during any investigation into abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the church community.
4. We commit ourselves to respectful pastoral care for all children and adults to whom we minister.
5. We commit ourselves to promoting safe practice by those in positions of trust.
6. The parish adopts the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese.
7. Each person who works with vulnerable groups, including children, will agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this church.
8. We are committed to reviewing our policy **annually**, and as part of this, check that our parish safeguarding procedures are up-to-date and relevant.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative ~~is~~/are:

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The person responsible for processing DBS applications is **The Revd. Karen Mitchell**

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