



CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS SAFEGUARDING POLICY

RATIONALE

St John's Church Crowborough has a responsibility to promote the welfare and safety of all children, young persons and vulnerable adults. We aim to create a culture in which the sanctity, dignity and well being of children, young persons and vulnerable adults is openly and transparently at the heart of our church community.

PRINCIPLES

The welfare of all children and vulnerable adults is essential to our ministry

We seek to value, respect and listen to children and vulnerable adults.

We will adopt safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for all individuals involved or having regular contact with children or vulnerable adults.

We will ensure that all relevant safeguarding checks are undertaken.

We will ensure that safeguarding concerns are shared with nominated/appropriate personnel.

PURPOSES

To assume a duty of care to protect children and vulnerable adults from inappropriate behaviour.

To ensure lines of communication are defined, effective and transparent.

GUIDELINES

All clergy and other ministers (whether licensed or having permission to officiate) must have an up-to-date DBS check. Such a check should also be made in relation to any person who is a regular at the church and who is permitted to officiate, preach or give a talk.

All individuals involved with children and young peoples groups eg (Sunday Club, JAM, Trailblazers and Junior Choir) and the Pastoral Team must have up-to-date DBS checks.

All children's group leaders are required to keep a register of attendance.

All individuals involved with or having regular contact with children or vulnerable adults will be given a St. John's Church *Safe Workers Pack* based on Diocesan recommendations.

Copies of the DBS documentation should be held by the Safeguarding Officer.

All clergy and other licensed ministers should undergo regular training in safeguarding.

The Parish Priest and Safeguarding Officer should ensure that the appropriate laity within the parish undergoes any appropriate training.

Any safeguarding complaint/ concern should be reported immediately to the Safeguarding Officer and the Parish Priest.

All clergy involved in pastoral work should keep a record/notebook. The record should contain a summary of who has been seen pastorally and include a brief statement of the general purpose of the encounter, date, time and place. Training should emphasise the necessity never to contact children or counsel vulnerable adults, when no other responsible adult is in the immediate vicinity and thus able to act as a 'chaperone'.