



Church on Berryfields

living life to the full

Church Safeguarding Policy

The following policy was agreed by the Steering Team at the meeting held on 13th May 2024.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy We are committed to:

- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults by promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with a responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children and all adults including those who are victims/survivors of abuse and those who are the subject of concerns of allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation and to those that may pose a present risk to others.

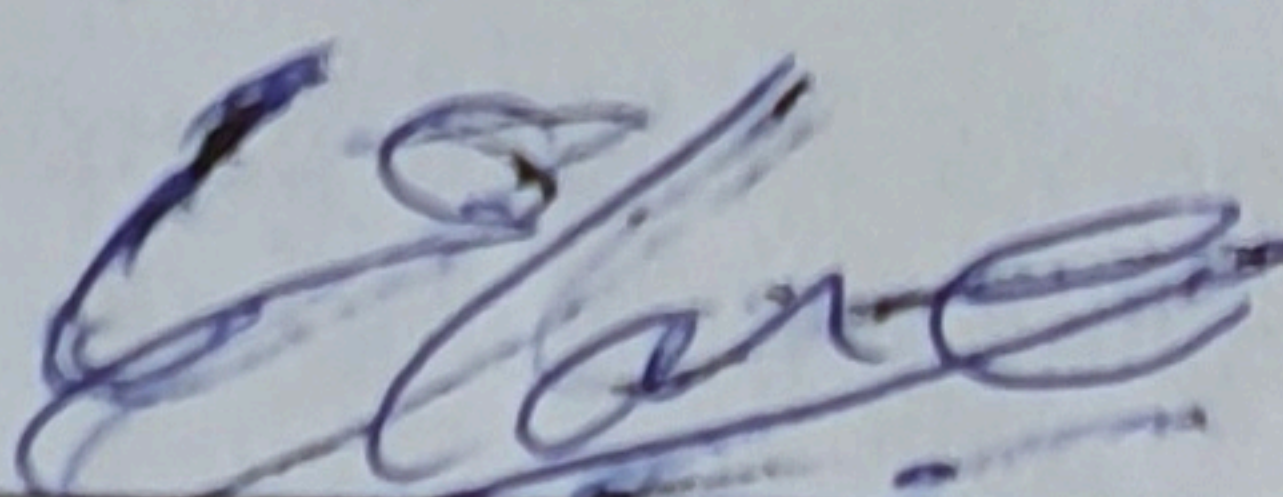
The church will:


1. Create a safe and caring place for all.
2. Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) and Children's Advocate to work with the incumbent and Steering Team to implement policy and procedures.
3. We will display at church meetings and on the website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
4. We will carefully recruit all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults within the Church, in line with safer recruitment principles, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records checks.
5. We will train and equip all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
6. We will listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.

7. We will respond without delay to every concern raised and take steps to protect children and adults, following the House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (DSA) and other agencies immediately.
8. We will cooperate with the police and local authority in any investigation and we will have a clear reporting and recording procedure in place.
9. We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with him or her an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
10. We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
11. We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including monitoring and supervision, to any member of our church community who may pose a risk to children, young people or adults maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
12. In all these principles we will follow statute, guidance and recognised good practice.
13. We will advise the Diocese which Registered Body we use to process applications for Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records checks and will advise the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser if we receive a Disclosure which is 'blemished' or 'positive'.
14. We will ensure that the relevant health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
15. We will ensure the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices and they are reviewed at least annually and supply a copy of any updated policy statement to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

The church appoints Janet Obayomi as the Parish Safeguarding Officer and Gemma Moncada as the Children's Advocate.

Signed Revd. Gareth Lane 

2 members of Steering Team  & 