



Parish Policy on the Safeguarding of Children in the Church

This statement was agreed by the Parish of Hove: St John the Baptist at a PCC meeting on 21 March 2016.

1. As members of this PCC we are committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of all our members, particularly the children and young people.
2. We recognize that our work with children and young people is the responsibility of the whole church community, and, consequently, that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone.
3. We are committed to implementing the House of Bishops' Child Protection Policy "Protecting All god's Children, 2010" and the diocesan procedures, which are based on the Children Act, and Government guidance "Working Together to Safeguard Children", both published in 2013.
4. We will carefully select and train ordained and lay ministers, volunteers and paid workers with children and young people. We will use the Disclosure and Barring Service, amongst other tools, to check the background of each person.
5. We will respond without delay to every concern raised, that a child or young person, for whom we are responsible, may have been harmed.
6. We will co-operate fully with statutory agencies during any investigation concerning a member of the church community.
7. We will seek to ensure that any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse is offered support that meets their needs.
8. We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended against a child.
9. We will review this policy annually, and as part of this process will ensure that all our procedures, particularly in relation to the Disclosure and Barring Service, are up to date.

Our church Safeguarding Representative

Lisa Godfrey, telephone 07813 539 020, (or via the church office, c/o 119 Holland Road, Hove, BN3 1JS 01273) represents the concerns and views of vulnerable people at our meetings and to outside bodies