

Padstow Parish

Statement of Safeguarding Principles

Padstow Parochial Church Council ('We') confirms that it must comply with the following regulations and guidance: The House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy Statement 'Promoting a Safer Church 2017'

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-11/cofe-policy-statement.pdf>

approved by the General Synod of May 2017, further safeguarding policies and guidance issued by the Church of England centrally and the Diocese of Truro, and in addition various secular multi-agency safeguarding procedures relating to children, young people and adults experiencing or at risk of harm, abuse or neglect. Therefore:

We will seek to keep children, young people, vulnerable adults and other members of the community safe by:

- At all times valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- Making sure that they know where to go for help if they have a concern about the way in which they are being treated.

We believe and recognise that:

- The welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and indeed any member of our community is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.
- Children, young people and vulnerable adults and indeed any member of the community should never experience abuse of any kind.
- Regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, or sexual orientation everyone has an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.
- We work in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies and this is essential in promoting young people's welfare.
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise is key to our work.
- We must ensure that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.
- Ensuring we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance is a part of our shared responsibility as a PCC.
- We will do all we can to build a safeguarding culture where staff, volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

We are committed to:

- Promoting a Safer environment and culture within our Parish and in our Parish activities by adhering to safe working practices and acknowledge the principle that safeguarding is everyone's business.

In addition, we will ensure that any individual organization renting/using our premises for activities involving children, young people or vulnerable adults is aware of this, our Safeguarding Policy, and aware of their own individual responsibilities to have appropriate safeguarding policies and processes in place, including safer recruitment.

- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibilities related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the Church in accordance with the House of Bishops' Safer Recruitment: Practice Guidance 2016.

We will ensure those appointed are aware of the Diocesan and Parish Safeguarding Policies and are aware of their roles and responsibilities. We will support them by ensuring they receive Diocesan safeguarding training commensurate with their role and that they are fully aware of and have access to the practice guidance.

- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation in accordance with the statutory child and adult safeguarding procedures and the House of Bishops' safeguarding practice guidance.

We will ensure that any complaint made regarding a vulnerable person, who may have been harmed or is in significant danger, will be reported immediately and we will fully cooperate with statutory agencies during any investigation into allegations concerning a member of the church community or any other person.

- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.

We will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and/or isolation and provide them with details of local and national support agencies.

- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.

We will work with others to ensure the appropriate support for them and those affected. Where that person is considered to pose a risk to others, we will work with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor to mitigate any identified risk.

- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

We will endeavour to offer pastoral care and support whilst ensuring any risk has been assessed and is being managed in accordance with House of Bishops' policy and guidance and in collaboration with the statutory agencies and the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor.

Safeguarding representative

We will ensure that there is an identified person/s to be the Parish Safeguarding Representative/s who will be suitably recruited and trained, and is aware of their role and responsibilities, and who will be the point of contact for any concerns.

The Parish Safeguarding Representative is *Patrick Atkinson*. *He may be contacted on patrick@familyatkinson.co.uk*

The Parish Priest and incumbent with safeguarding responsibility is *Rev'd Paul Beynon*. *He may be contacted on 01841 721439*.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor is *Andy Earl*. He may be reached on 01872 241507. This link takes you to more information on the Diocesan website: <https://trurodiocese.org.uk/safeguarding>

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

Local Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU) for Cornwall: 0300 1231 116

Guidance

Copies of Diocesan and parish guidelines and procedures can be accessed at the Church Office.

Review

This policy will be formally reviewed annually and a copy shared with the Archdeacon at the time of the Visitation.

Date of Adoption – PCC Meeting on the 27th of November 2024