

SAFEGUARDING THE PARISH OF AUCKLAND ST HELEN.

The members of the Parochial Church Council of S, Helen Auckland have received and been made aware of the Diocesan document "Safe and Secure". In the light of the recommendations of that document and in the light of the papers "Responsibilities of Clergy and PCC in terms of Safeguarding" and the Parish Safeguarding checklist their current policy statement regarding the protection of children, young people and those working with them and with the Parochial Church Council has been updated as follows:

- A. The Policy will be reviewed annually by the Parochial Church Council
- B. A report will be given annually at the ACPM at its November meeting
- C. A copy of the Diocesan Handbook "Safe and Secure" and a copy of the Parish Safeguarding checklist are available from the Vicar. In the first instance he should be contacted with regard to anything contained within the Handbook or this Policy Statement.

The policy of the Parochial Church Council will be to:

- Maintain a register of children and Youth Leaders authorised by the PCC and that **DBS disclosures are completed by all those in contact with children and young people.**
- Maintain securely Personal Disclosure and Reference records of all leaders and occasional helpers with access to children and young people.
- To form an Appointments Panel for children and Youth Leaders. This will comprise the Vicar and two other named people, one of whom will be a woman. These persons will be approved by the PCC.
- Acknowledge that being convicted, cautioned or bound over for a criminal offence does automatically debar an individual from working with children or young people.
- Provide as safe and welcoming environment as possible for children and young people who take part in the life of the church.
- Provide adequate insurance cover for leaders, participants and third parties.
- Ensure that all Youth Workers adhere to a Diocesan Code of Behaviour.
- To identify an independent person who is named and accessible to all in contact with the Church.
- To ensure that groups who are not part of the Church but hire Church Halls for activities are asked if they have **DBS** Checks, adequate Insurance and a Child Protection Policy and to see evidence of this. If the group does not have a Child Protection Policy they would be asked to adopt the Diocesan policy.

The Parochial Church Council will maintain copies of the following forms:

- The Duties and Responsibilities of Children and Youth Workers
- Annual Parent/Carer Consent
- Parent/Carer Consent for special activities
- A register of children and youth leaders authorised by the PCC.
- **Confidential Declaration forms by those working with Children and Young People**

The Parochial Church Council will also be responsible for making available in both the church and the Parish Centre:

- A First Aid Kit
- An Accident Book
- Notification of Accident Forms for Parents/Carers
- Fire Regulation Procedures

for those who participate in child/youth activities.

Policy updated February 2022

Signed.... Canon R I McTeer Mrs Dianne Chew

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Dianne Chew St.helen.safeguarding@gmail.com

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Beth Miller 07968034075 berth.miller@durham.anglican.org