

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

1. PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH Introduction

In accordance with Church of England's policy, *Promoting a Safer Church* and the House of Bishops' *Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance*, Chichester Cathedral is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people, and vulnerable adults who may be at risk.

The Cathedral works in partnership with the Diocese of Chichester to ensure that we operate in accordance with best practice at all times.

The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults are the responsibility of the whole Cathedral community, whether clergy, staff, volunteers, contractors or members of the congregations. Everyone who participates in the life of the Cathedral has a role to play in promoting a safe environment for all.

2. POLICY STATEMENTS

2.1 The Church of England's Safeguarding Policy, *Promoting a Safer Church*, (2017)

This commits us to:

- a) Promoting a safer environment and culture in the Cathedral.
- b) The safer recruitment and support of all those with responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults within the Cathedral.
- c) Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- d) Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- e) Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- f) Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

2.2 Chichester Cathedral Safeguarding Policy

The Cathedral seeks to create a safe and caring place for all.

Our Vision states that:

We will continually strive to find effective ways to safeguard our congregation and our visitors and engage with victims and survivors of historical abuse.

Therefore:

- a) Chapter expects all members of the Cathedral Clergy, staff, volunteers, contractors, third parties and congregations to take appropriate responsibility for safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults within the Cathedral community and will offer and monitor appropriate training and ensure appropriate safeguarding policies are in place.
- b) Chapter will ensure that recruitment for all clergy, lay ministers, staff and volunteers complies with the Church of England's *Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance* (2021).
- c) Chapter requires all clergy and staff to listen to and respond promptly to safeguarding concerns, allegations or disclosures, in line with the House of Bishops' guidance.
- d) Chapter expects all clergy and staff to cooperate appropriately with statutory agencies during any investigation that occurs concerning a member of the Cathedral community.
- e) Chapter will seek to care pastorally and appropriately for survivors of abuse, in line with the Church of England's *Responding Well to Victims and Survivors of Abuse* (2021).
- f) Chapter will seek to care pastorally and appropriately for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations and other affected persons.
- g) Chapter will seek to care for and monitor appropriately those who, may pose a present risk to others in the Cathedral, in line with the guidance and advice of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and external agencies.
- h) Chapter ensures that safeguarding risk assessments, policies and procedures are implemented and updated appropriately and at least annually.
- i) Chapter maintains an agreement with clear lines of accountability between the Cathedral and the Prebendal School.

September 2023