

Emmanuel Wylde Green Parish Safeguarding Policy Statement

This policy statement on safeguarding children and adults in the Church was agreed by Emmanuel Wylde Green at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 26th September 2023.

The PCC of Emmanuel recognises the need to safeguard the children, young people and adults in our care and to guard against the possibility of any form of abuse of children, young people and adults by persons who may be acting in the name of our parish. We aim to create a safe environment for the nurture and development of children, young people and adults, in order for them to feel valued and confident to ask for support and help. We will ensure that we have in place policies and procedures that enable us to meet our responsibility to protect and safeguard the children, young people and adults entrusted to our care.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

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

This church appoints Jane Götschel as the Parish Safeguarding Officer (Tel: 07703 354933)

The Rev. Ann Richardson, Area Dean, is currently the Lead parish verifier to process online Disclosure and Barring Service applications.

Incumbent: *The Parish is currently in an interregnum*

Churchwardens: Christopher Shaw (Tel: 07807 657618)

Useful contacts:

Steph Haynes, Bishop's Safeguarding Officer 07342 993844 ; StephH@cofebirmingham.com

Date: 26.9.2023