

PARISH OF FLEET

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

1. All children's, young people's and mixed-age activities that are the responsibility of the PCC will be subject to the Diocesan and Parish Child Protection procedures as detailed in 'The Care and Protection of Children 2002'.
2. The PCC will appoint a Parish Child Protection Representative to be responsible to them for implementing Diocesan and parish policy. This person will be someone who is not responsible for children or youth work in the parish so that independence is maintained.
3. All leaders, helpers and adults in mixed-age activities, and those having informal contact with children will be informed of appropriate Child Protection procedures and given a copy of the leaflet 'Keeping Children Safe in the Church: a Brief Guide to the Diocesan Child Protection Procedures'.
4. All current paid employees, volunteers working with children on a regular basis, and adult members of mixed-age groups must sign a Confidential Declaration form and must undergo the Criminal Records Enhanced Disclosure procedure.
5. New employees/volunteers will be appointed according to the Diocesan guidelines on recruitment procedures for parishes as detailed in 'The Care & Protection of Children 2002'.
6. Any concern about a child or young person, or about adult behaviour, will be communicated to the Parish Child Protection Representative.
7. The Diocesan Child Protection Advisor will be informed by the incumbent of any people in the congregation known to have offended against children.
8. All children's and young people's groups which are the responsibility of the PCC will have the required number of helpers according to The Children Act 1989, and an appropriate gender balance.
9. All groups will have a register of attendance and up-to-date registration forms.
10. All premises used by children and young people will be checked regularly to ensure physical safety and compliance with current Health & Safety requirements
11. The PCC will support training in Child Protection procedures where appropriate.
12. All outside groups using church premises will be informed of procedures they should follow with regard to Child Protection when booking the facilities.

13. The parish insurance policy will cover all church activities on and off premises and will include Legal Protection insurance for employees and volunteers.
14. The Child Protection Representative will maintain accurate records of any child protection concerns, disclosures or allegations. Such records will be kept securely by the representative or the incumbent.
15. The Parish Child Protection Policy, together with specific parish policies/guidelines relating to CRB declarations, crèches, Junior Churches, Youth Groups, workshops and off-site activities will be reviewed annually by the PCC.

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