

4Saints Team Safeguarding Policy

St Mary's, Knowsley Parish



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

St Mary's Knowsley takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines.

You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at

www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues on a safeguarding matter then you can find useful contact information at <http://www.liverpool.anglican.org/safeguarding>"

The Diocesan Safeguarding Children Policy 2015 has been adopted by this parish and a copy of this policy is available in church and at <http://www.liverpool.anglican.org/safeguarding> along with further information.

It is now being updated again, and we are currently updating procedures accordingly.

The following offers a summary of this policy in relation to the parish of St Mary's Knowsley.

We believe...

- Children and Young People are an important part of our Church today
- They have as much to give as well as to receive
- We will listen to them
- As we nurture them in worship, learning and in community life, we will respect their wishes and feelings

We commit to... the nurture, protection and safekeeping of all

Within this summary 'PCC' represents the Parochial Church Council and reference to 'Children' includes young people and covers all those under the age of 18. The page references provided in brackets indicate where further information can be found in the Diocesan Policy.

Appointment of Volunteers and Paid Workers

(Pages 8-9)

Every effort will be made to recruit safe people within our work with children and young people, who seek the best interests of our children. This can only be achieved by rigorous and safe recruitment. Workers will complete: application, interview, references, self-declaration, DBS certificate where necessary, receive a volunteer agreement and be familiar with the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures. All workers are agreed by the PCC and receive training, support and annual review.

Recognising Harm

(Pages 10-11)

Physical Abuse	Anything causing physical harm to a child which includes hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding, drowning, suffocating.
Emotional Abuse	The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development.
Sexual Abuse	Involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what's happening and includes non-contact abuse.
Neglect	The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, resulting in serious impairment to the child's health and development.
Spiritual Harm	The inappropriate use of any religious belief or practice which may harm somebody spiritually, emotionally or physically.
Domestic Abuse	Children may be harmed in homes where there is Domestic Abuse.

Responding to Reports of Abuse, Allegations or Concerns

(Pages 12 – 14)

If, in the course of work with children, a child discloses abuse...

- DO
- Make clear *you can't keep a secret*
 - Listen* without interruption
 - Reassure* that they've done the right thing in telling you
 - Explain* you must pass this information on
 - Make notes* on what was said
 - Refer* to the flow chart attached for what to do next
- DON'T
- Show shock or disbelief
 - Promise to keep it a secret
 - Promise that you can stop it happening
 - Question further or Investigate
 - Contact the alleged perpetrator
 - Speak to the press

Photographs

(Page 17)

Images may only be taken of children with the permission (preferably in writing) of the parents / guardian and they should be made aware of how the images will be used.

ICT (including Instant Messenger, Mobile Phones and Social Network Sites)

(Pages 18-20)

Workers should only communicate with children through ICT with the consent of a parent / guardian (preferably in writing). Clear, unambiguous language should be used with an awareness of tone and inference, striving to ensure communication is not open to misunderstanding. It is preferable for communication with children through ICT to be in a group rather than individual, not from a personal account and in the public domain. Workers are requested to restrict ICT interactions between the hours of 9am and 9pm and copy and save all ICT communications.

Good Practice

(Pages 21 – 23)

- Adult:Child Ratios

For 0-2 years	1:3	For 3-8	1:8
For 2-3 years	1:4	For 8+	1:12
- We commit to...
 - Offering a warm, clean and safe place with access to a toilet.
 - Taking due regard for health and safety with accessible exits, fire extinguishers and first aid kits. Leaders should be aware of emergency procedures.
- We welcome those with special needs and will do our best to accommodate their needs.
- Registers and Permission forms with emergency contact and health information will be taken, kept up-to-date and stored safely.
- The PCC will be aware of activities and ensure there is adequate insurance cover.
- All workers, voluntary and paid, will avoid working with children unsupervised or alone, use only appropriate touch where necessary and treat all children with respect, dignity and appropriately for their age and needs.

For further information or to raise any concerns please contact:

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|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| • Parish Priest | Rev Hugh Lea-Wilson | 0151 546 4266 |
| • Parish Safeguarding Co-Ordinator | Helen Clarey | 01744 27055 |
| • Diocesan Child Protection Adviser | Su Foster | 0151 705 2153 |

Responding to Reports of Abuse, Allegations or Concerns Flow Chart

