

North Hinckford Team Safeguarding

This policy is, based on the House of Bishops' 'Protecting All God's Children', crafted to meet the needs of our specific rural context and the parishes within that area. Once agreed by all fifteen constituent churches, the communities served by those churches have a right to expect that it will be followed just as it is written.

Team Ministry Policy for the Protection of Children in the North Hinckford Team Ministry

Child Protection Representative

The Team has agreed the following person to be Team Child Protection Representative to whom any allegation or concerns about abuse should be directed. The nominated person is NOT normally one of those directly working with children and young people. They will follow the guidelines and procedures for responding to any allegations of abuse.

Team Administrator and Benefice Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Helen Grover

Address Helen Grover

> 0800- 6528532

> Spring House

> Cross End

> Pebmarsh

> Halstead

> Essex CO9 2NU

Telephone: 0800 6528532 email: helen.grover@northhinckfordparishes.org.uk
01787 269223

Team CP Training Co-ordinator Mrs Helen Grover

Details as above

Policy Statement:

NORTH HINCKFORD CHILD PROTECTION POLICY 2011: (House of Bishops' Statement *Protecting All God's Children 2004*; Contextualised by Diocese of Chelmsford Diocesan CP, *Children and Young People First* as an amendment of the Southwark Diocese CPP amended 2004)

This team ministry recognises and values children and young people (anyone under the age of 18) as equal partners in the life and ministry of the church, and desires to encourage them to explore, discover and live out the Christian Gospel. The Team Council (TC) and constituent Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) takes seriously its obligations and responsibilities to protect and safeguard the welfare of any child or young person (i.e. under the age of 18 years) entrusted to the church's care.

Therefore in the church's provision and ministry, the TC and PCC, as the legal entity

1. Accepts responsibility for the activities of the children's and youth groups operating under its auspices.
2. Will actively seek to protect and safeguard the physical, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and young people while in the care of the church.
3. Will have clear procedures for responding to suspicions or allegations about abuse, or inappropriate behaviours towards children and young people by any member of the church, and procedures for working with known offenders attending the church
4. Will ensure that both employed and volunteer children's and youth workers and all other persons working within the church who may have contact with children or young people through this work are properly and appropriately selected and appointed as set out in the Diocese of Chelmsford guidelines on the Criminal Records Bureau.
5. Will ensure that children's/youth workers and volunteers are given adequate support and training.
6. Will annually appoint a Team Child Protection Representative.
7. Will annually review the Parish Child Protection Policy and procedures.
8. Will maintain appropriate Third Party Liability insurance for the church work among children and young people.

Commitment to Children and Young People

In accepting the Church Child Protection Policy Statement, the TC and PCCs as the legal agent of the whole church family in these individual Parishes and within the Diocese of Chelmsford is also committed:

To the children by

- Listening to and valuing children and young people.
- Relating to children and young people effectively and appropriately. Ensuring their protection and minimizing risk of harm by their involvement in any church or related activities, both at the normal meeting place and when away from the normal meeting place.

- Encouraging and supporting children, parents and carers.
- To provide safe, relevant and engaging children's and youth work of the highest quality possible and with adequate resources, (bearing in mind the limitations of plant and human resources).

To workers, volunteers and the Child Protection Representative by

- Giving and enabling appropriate support and training.
- Providing clear systems and procedures for dealing with concerns or allegations about abuse.
- Providing clear systems and procedures for the recruitment of workers and volunteers.
- Maintaining good links with Diocesan and statutory childcare authorities as necessary.

Recruitment of Children and Youth Leaders, including CRB Disclosure:

Great care will be exercised in the appointment of suitable workers and volunteers to the church's work with young people. The TC and PCCs have follow the Diocesan guidelines on Disclosure through the Criminal Records Bureau. Where access to children is regular, expected or significant (i.e. a key part of their role even if they are not in regularly contact with children), the Diocesan policy and procedures will be strictly adhered to.

Child Protection – Definitions of Abuse

The PCC recognises the categories of abuse as defined in the Diocesan CPP, adheres to the process therein defined regarding people who pose a risk to children and follows the procedures for referral to the Team nominated person for child protection in the event of any allegation or suspicion of abuse. Those guidelines are available from the Team CP Representative, the Team Rector or the Team Vicar.

Policy Adoption

This policy to be laid down for adoption in October 2011 and reviewed annually by Team Council **but may be adopted by any individual PCC before that time.**

Signed by:

Team Rector (Or Churchwarden)

Team Vicar

Nominated Person 2011

TC Secretary (Or PCC Secretary)

Date:

A SIGNED AND DATED COPY OF THIS POLICY MUST BE SENT ANNUALLY TO THE CHELMSFORD DIOCESAN SECRETARY.