

# PCC SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

Parish of GARSTANG ST. THOMAS.

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. This implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

- We accept and endorse the principles set out in 'Safeguarding in the Diocese of Blackburn.'
- We commit ourselves to nurture, protect and safeguard all our members, particularly children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- We recognise that safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole church community.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the selection, appointment, training and support of those working in both paid and voluntary positions with children or vulnerable adults, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) disclosures and making appropriate referrals to the Disclosure and Barring Service.
- We will respond without delay to concerns or allegations that a child or vulnerable adult may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and social care services in any investigation.
- We will challenge any abuse of power by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them appropriate pastoral support.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

The PCC of this Church agreed and adopted the above Policy at its meeting on 21/02/2019.

We have appointed DAVID HOLMES as our Church Safeguarding Officer (CSO).

Copies of "Safeguarding in the Diocese of Blackburn" and any parish guidelines and procedures are held by: THE SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

The PCC shall review this policy annually. The next review will take place on: FEBRUARY 2020

Signed:

Vicar/Rector/Priest in Charge [Signature]

Churchwarden [Signature]

Churchwarden [Signature]

**Parish Policy Statement on Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults**

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of people in God's image. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

We commit ourselves to nurture, protect and safeguard all our members, particular children, young people and vulnerable adults.

We recognise that safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole church.

We undertake to exercise proper care in the selection, appointment, training and support of those working with children and vulnerable adults.

We will respond without delay to concerns or allegations that a child or vulnerable adult may have been harmed, cooperating fully in any investigation.

We will challenge any abuse of power by anyone in a position of trust.  
We will seek to offer pastoral care to anyone who has suffered abuse.

We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

Signed:

Vicar/Priest in charge .....

Churchwarden.....

Churchwarden.....

February 2019

**Safeguarding Officers**

**David Holmes**  
Lead Church Safeguarding Officer

**Elizabeth Swarbrick**  
Safeguarding Officer

Our Safeguarding Officer is the first person to speak to if you have any concerns around the welfare of a child or vulnerable adult.

You can contact David on 07949412780

Elizabeth can be contacted on 01995 604845

**Important telephone numbers**

If David or Elizabeth are unavailable, please contact:-

Sharon Hassall Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Telephone 07711 485170

email: sharon.hassall@blackburn.anglican.org

31.8 (formally known as CCPAS) 24 hour helpline: 0845 120 4550.