

The Guild Church of St Botolph's without Aldersgate SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

Preamble

- 1.1 St Botolph's is a Guild Church. It is one of 16 churches within the City of London having a particular status under the City of London Guild Churches Act 1852. It has no parish. It resides within a parish. The vicar is independent of the incumbent of the enlarged parish in which the Guild church lies. Guild churches seek to make special provision for the spiritual needs of weekday workers in the City of London.
- 1.2 St Botolph's believes the historic Christian Faith as revealed in the Holy Scriptures and expounded by the 39 Articles and General Councils accepting that only Holy Scripture is the supreme authority for God's self-revelation, Father Son and Holy Spirit. It believes all conciliar statements are subject to the judgment of Scripture and God has yet more light and truth to break forth from His word.
- 1.3 The present ministry consists of Aldersgate Talks and Moorgate Talks providing lunchtime expositions from the Bible with the purpose of explaining the Christian Message. This ministry is supplemented with small groups (Partnership Groups) that meet to study the Bible during the week, 1:1 Bible Studies with individuals, and Christianity Explored courses designed for those that wish to know what the Bible teaches about the gospel.

The following policy was agreed at the Guild Church Council (GCC) meeting held on 5th December 2018

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 Guild Church Safeguarding Officer to work with the incumbent and the Guild Church Council to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and *vulnerable* 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 Guild Church.
- Display in church premises and on the Guild Church 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 and with respect to Vulnerable Adults.

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- 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.

City of London:

Worried about a child?

City of London Children and Families Team: 0207 332 3621 / 0208 356 2710 (out of hours)

Worried about an adult?

Adult Social Care: 0207 332 1224

Adult Learning Disability Service: 0208 356 7444 / 7400

Adult Mental Health (East London NHS Foundation Trust): 020 3222 8000

Domestic Violence (Public Protection Unit): 0207 601 2940

Substance Misuse (Turning Point): 0345 144 0050

Nick Stansbury is the GCC Safeguarding Officer 44 1737 213462

Incumbent : Phil Martin

Churchwardens : David Durlacher

Mark Crossley

Date: 28 July 2023