



CHRIST CHURCH

WALSHAW

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

23.3.26

1. Introduction

Christ Church Walshaw is committed to safeguarding children, young people, and adults at risk. We recognise that safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole church community and that the church must provide a safe and caring environment for all.

As a parish within the Church of England and the Diocese of Manchester, we adopt and implement the Church of England's national safeguarding policies and practice guidance, including **Promoting a Safer Church**.

2. Our Safeguarding Commitments

Christ Church Walshaw commits to:

- Promoting a safer culture and environment within the church.
 - Safely recruiting and supporting all those with responsibilities related to children, young people, and adults at risk.
 - Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
 - Caring pastorally for victims and survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
 - Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
 - Responding appropriately to those who may pose a present risk to others.
 - Working in partnership with statutory agencies and safeguarding partners.
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3. Principles

We believe that:

- Every person is made in the image of God and deserves dignity and respect.
- The welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults is paramount.
- Abuse of any kind is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

We recognise many forms of abuse including:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Spiritual abuse
- Financial abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Discriminatory abuse
- Organisational abuse

4. Parish Safeguarding Leadership

Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

Alaina Anderson

Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer

Jo Haslam

The Parish Safeguarding Officers work closely with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and are the first point of contact for safeguarding concerns within the parish.

The **Parochial Church Council (PCC)** accepts responsibility for safeguarding and ensuring this policy is implemented.

5. Safer Recruitment and Training

Christ Church Walshaw follows safer recruitment procedures including:

- Appropriate DBS checks where required
- References obtained before appointment
- Written role descriptions for relevant roles
- Safeguarding training appropriate to the role

Training will follow the requirements set by the Church of England and the Diocese of Manchester.

6. Safer Working with Children and Young People

The parish will ensure:

- Adequate supervision ratios for activities involving children.
 - At least two responsible adults present.
 - Written consent from parents or guardians for activities.
 - Appropriate risk assessments for events and trips.
 - Clear behaviour expectations for leaders and volunteers.
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7. Responding to Safeguarding Concerns

If a safeguarding concern arises:

1. **If someone is in immediate danger, contact emergency services.**
2. Report the concern to **Alaina Anderson (PSO)**.
3. If unavailable, report to **Jo Haslam (Deputy PSO)**.

4. If necessary, contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

Christ Church Walshaw will:

- Take all concerns seriously
 - Listen carefully and respectfully
 - Record information accurately
 - Refer concerns appropriately
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8. Supporting Victims and Survivors

Christ Church Walshaw is committed to:

- Listening to and believing survivors
 - Treating disclosures with care and seriousness
 - Offering pastoral support
 - Working with appropriate support services
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9. Managing Risk

Where someone attending church may pose a risk to others, the parish will:

- Work with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team
 - Implement safeguarding agreements or plans where required
 - Ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults
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10. Policy Review

This safeguarding policy will be reviewed **annually by the PCC** and updated in line with national safeguarding guidance.

11. Policy Adoption

Adopted by the PCC of Christ Church Walshaw

Date: 17/8/26

Signed (Incumbent / Priest in Charge): SM Ashurst

Signed (Churchwarden): Lev Harrison

PSO: **Alaina Anderson**

Deputy PSO: **Jo Haslam**