

**Diocese of Worcester**  
**Parish of St Martin with St Peter, Worcester**

**PARISH POLICY STATEMENT ON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN**

The following policy has been agreed and implemented by the Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.).

1. We are aware of and will implement the House of Bishops' Child Protection Policy *Protecting All God's Children* (4<sup>th</sup> edition, 2010) and the diocesan procedures.
2. We are committed to the safeguarding and the care of children within our church community.
3. We will carefully select and train ordained and lay ministers, volunteers, and paid workers who work with children, using the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and other tools to check the background of each person as outlined in the Parish Procedures for Safeguarding Children.
4. We will respond without delay to every complaint made that a child for whom we are responsible may have been harmed or is in significant danger.
5. We will fully cooperate with statutory agencies during any investigation into allegations concerning a member of the church community. We will inform the statutory agency or agencies of any suspected criminal offences or concerns of which we are made aware in respect of our contact with children.
6. We will offer informed pastoral support to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse and provide them with details of local and national support agencies.
7. We will supervise and support any member of our church community known to have offended against a child.
8. We will review this policy annually and, as part of this, check that all our procedures and activities involving children, including the DBS service and checks, are up to date and in accordance with statutory obligations.
9. We will review our insurance policy for those working with children, ensuring we adopt the advice in the House of Bishops' policy.
10. A copy of this policy will be displayed on a parish noticeboard, along with contact details for ChildLine and Family Lives.

The P.C.C. has identified the following activities involving children and young people to which the House of Bishops' policy applies.

1. Sunday Club, which takes place during the 10 a.m. Eucharist on the first, third, fourth and fifth Sundays of every month in the Lower Vestry of St Martin's Church, under the supervision of the Children's Workers (Gail Rowley and Martin Rowley).
2. Messy Church, which takes place on one Saturday of each month within the main body of St Martin's Church, under the supervision of the Children's Workers (Gail Rowley and Martin Rowley).

This policy was discussed and agreed at the P.C.C. meeting held on Tuesday, 7 May, 2013.

The Revd Canon Ken Boyce (Incumbent and P.C.C. Chair)

Bill Simpson (Churchwarden)

Elizabeth Yarker (Churchwarden)