

Diocese of York

Church of St Mary Goathland

Safeguarding Policy

This policy applies to children, young people, and adults of any age. In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy we commit ourselves to the following.

Creating in our church a welcoming, safe, inclusive, caring and kind community in which each individual is treated with respect and dignity.

Recognising that we are all vulnerable and could find ourselves experiencing bullying, exploitation, abuse, even if we see ourselves as being 'strong'.

Recognising that inside each of us is the potential to become the one who, perhaps unawares, in only small, subtle ways causes harm by, for example, excluding, seeking power over others, patronizing, not listening. It is hard to work on our own integrity.

Accepting that some people are more vulnerable than others; perhaps from addiction, ill health, impairment, marginalisation, failing faculties.

Listening with attention to others, and developing awareness of ways in which people can suffer and manifest harm, pain, unhappiness — perhaps as a result of domestic problems — overwork, diminishing of self-esteem, sheer tiredness, just not coping. (Refer to helpful materials available online).

Accepting that help for anyone must be non-discriminatory, discreet, respecting of a person's privacy, confidentiality, and independence.

Making possible specialist care where needed. Amateur care has a role to play, but there are times when specialist skills are essential and must be called on.

Should a safeguarding issue arise, taking seriously the confidentiality of the disclosure, following the procedures set out in our Procedures Document (attached) and reporting the issue to the Parish Safeguarding Officer. (PSO).

Brenda Lealman, Churchwarden, St Mary's Church, Goathland
Carole Hardwick, Parish Safeguarding Officer

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Safeguarding procedures when there are concerns or allegations

Taking the first step

Initially, concerns or allegations must be shared, in confidence, with St Mary's Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO). Please be discreet: this is not a matter for sharing with others. Do NOT share with anyone about whom the concerns or allegations are made.

What the PSO will do

Your concerns or allegations will be recorded by the PSO who will keep a confidential file of: concerns or allegations; decisions made about how to proceed; rationale for those decisions; consultation with any other persons.

The PSO **will not** carry out his or her own further investigations.

The PSO **will** share the concerns or allegations with the Priest in Charge or a Churchwarden.

What will happen then

No further action will be taken if, after appropriate consultations, the above are entirely satisfied that concerns or allegations are unfounded.

Or, further action will be taken: the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer will be informed.

IF A PERSON IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER OR APPEARS TO BE

A church member might be alerted, for example, by a child himself or herself.

You must take immediate action: a referral should be made at once to the police on 101, and state that you are making a 'child protection referral', or, 'reporting an adult in danger'.

The PSO must then be informed and he or she will take appropriate action.

Useful Numbers

Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)	Carole Hardwick	07964 791959	
Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA)	Rob Marshall	01904 699509 07914 668907	rob.marshall@yorkdiocese.org
Assistant DSA	Sara Dickinson	01904 699524 07521 433801	sara.dickinson@yorkdiocese.org
Social Services. And out of hours		01609 780780	
Childline for Children	Calls made by children	0800 1111	
Police		101 URGENT 999	

Brenda Lealman, Churchwarden, St Mary's Church Goathland.

Carole Hardwick, PSO, Goathland PCC.