

What do I need to know about protecting vulnerable adults?

Everyone, as a citizen, has a responsibility for the safety, well-being and protection of others. Everyone within the church community also has a responsibility to ensure that there is a welcome for all people, including those seen as vulnerable.

Everyone should be alert to situations where those who might be vulnerable are exposed to unacceptable risks. The congregation and church workers need to be clear about the procedures which should be followed when there are concerns about people being harmed or abused.

Not all concerns about the welfare or safety of a vulnerable person need the public authorities to be involved; sometimes it may be that the concern focuses on behaviour and attitudes that are not immediately harmful and then the matter should be dealt with through training or discussion. The choices of the adult concerned should if at all possible be accepted. The response to any concerns should always be proportionate and appropriate to the issue.

Want to know more?

Please see the full "Policy and Procedures for the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults in our Churches" for full information.

The Diocese of Leicester provides supporting documents on their website https://www.leicester.anglican.org/about/safeguarding/

Who do I contact if I have any concerns or questions?

Jacqui McAughey is the Adult Safeguarding Lead



Contact Us

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Safeguarding at St. Andrews, Countesthorpe



Protecting vulnerable adults

What is safeguarding all about?

Christian communities should be places where all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse. The Church is particularly called by God to support those at the margins, those less powerful and those without a voice in our society. The Church can work towards creating a safe and non-discriminatory environment by being aware of some of the particular situations that create vulnerability. Issues which need to be considered include both the physical environment and the attitudes of workers. A person who might be considered vulnerable has the right to:

- Be treated with respect and dignity;
- Have their privacy respected;
- Be able to lead as independent a life as possible;
- Be able to choose how to lead their life;
- Have the protection of the law;
- Have their rights upheld regardless of their ethnicity, gender, sexuality, impairment or disability, age, religion or cultural background;
- Be able to use their chosen language or method of communication;
- Be heard.

Definition for use with those who may be vulnerable

Any adult aged 18 or over whom, by reason of mental or other disability, age, illness or other situation is permanently or for the time being unable to take care of him or herself, or to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.



Summary of our Policy

We are committed to respectful pastoral ministry to all adults within our church community.

We are committed, within our church community, to the safeguarding and protection of vulnerable people.

We will carefully select and train all those with any pastoral responsibility within the Church, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service disclosures where legal or appropriate.

We will respond without delay to any complaint made that an adult for whom we were responsible has been harmed, cooperating with police and the local authority in any investigation.

We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate healing ministry.

We will challenge any abuse of power by anyone in a position of trust.

We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended against a vulnerable person.