

Goathland Parochial Church Council



St Marys Church Goathland

Parish Safeguarding Policy for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults

We, in this church of St Mary, Goathland, recognise and value children, young people (anyone under the age of 18) and vulnerable adults, as equal partners in the the life and ministry of our church. We will do all we can to encourage them to discover, explore, and live out the Christian Gospel.

We commit ourselves to protecting and safeguarding the welfare of any child, young person or vulnerable adult entrusted to our church's care.

Each member of our PCC commits to seriously understanding, accepting, and actively seeking to fulfil the following obligations and responsibilities.

- To take responsibility for the activities of the children's and youth groups operating under the auspices of our PCC.
- To protect and safeguard the physical, emotional, and spiritual welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults in the care of our church.
- To be aware of and clear about St Mary's procedures (q.v. as displayed and distributed to PCC members) for responding to suspicions or allegations about abuse, or inappropriate behaviour towards children, young people and vulnerable adults by any member of our church. Also the procedures for working with known offenders who attend our church.
- To ensure that children's workers, youth workers and volunteers are given adequate support and training.
- Annually to appoint a Safeguarding Representative for our church.
- Annually to review the Safeguarding Policy and procedures.
- To make sure that appropriate third party liability insurance for church work among children, young people and vulnerable adults is maintained.

The PCC has appointed the following person to be its Safeguarding Representative to whom any allegations or concerns about abuse or child care should be directed.

Brenda Lealman

The Bield, Beck Hole Road, Goathland YO22 5NE

Tel. 01947 896400

This policy is adopted and will be reviewed annually by our PCC

Name of Incumbent

Revd Paul Jackson

Name of Churchwarden

Ms Brenda Lealman

Signature

Paul Jackson

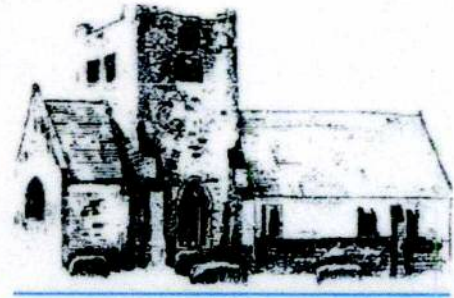
Signature

Brenda Lealman

Date:

14 April 2017

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St Mary's Church Goathland Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Procedures when there are concerns or allegations

1 Normal Course of Action

The first step

Initially, concerns or allegations must be shared, in confidence, with the Safeguarding Representative of St Mary's PCC. Discretion is extremely important: this is not a matter for 'spreading the news'. The matter *must not be shared* with anyone about whom the concerns or allegations are made.

What the Safeguarding Representative will do

Concerns or allegations will be recorded by the Safeguarding Representative who is required to keep a confidential file of such matters, including details of consultation with any other persons, decisions made about how to proceed and the rationale for those decisions.

The Safeguarding Representative *may not* carry out his or her own further investigations. The Safeguarding Representative will share the concerns or allegations with the Vicar or a Churchwarden.

What will happen then

If, after appropriate consultations, the above persons are *entirely* satisfied that the concerns or allegations are unfounded, no further action will be taken. However, if a care issue or abuse issue is apparent, or if concerns remain, the Safeguarding Officer must seek the advice of the Archdeacon, or that of Social Services (Parents' permission is required to make a referral to Social Services).

2 If a child or vulnerable adult is or appears to be in immediate danger

For example, a church member might be alerted by the child or adult himself or herself. The church member must take action either by referral *at once* to the police on the number below (stating that the matter is a 'Safeguarding Referral') or by contacting North Yorkshire Services at the number below, asking to speak to someone on a Safeguarding matter.

The Safeguarding Representative must then be informed; and will contact the Archdeacon. If the Representative is not available, the Archdeacon must be contacted directly.

Safeguarding Representative: (Ms Brenda Lealman)	01947 896400
Local Police	101
Archdeacon of Cleveland	01642 706095
Diocesan Safeguarding (Julie O'Hara)	01904 699524 or 07551 124951
North Yorkshire Social Services (Ask for Safeguarding)	08450 349410
Childline	0800 1111