



PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL

Policy Statement for the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Cathedral Church of St Thomas of Canterbury, Old Portsmouth

The following policy statement was agreed at the Chapter meeting held on 27th September 2023.

As members of Chapter, we commit our Cathedral Church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all, especially the young and vulnerable. We recognise that our work with children, young people and adults who may be at risk is the responsibility of the whole church community and are fully committed to acting within current legislation, guidance, national frameworks and the Diocesan Safeguarding procedures.

1. We will ensure that all the necessary checks are made to promote the safe selection and recruitment of those who work with vulnerable groups, and provide the necessary supervision, support and training to them in order that they can undertake their roles effectively.
2. We will respond without delay to every concern raised that a child, young person or adult may have been harmed, or be at risk from harm.
3. We will fully co-operate with the Diocese and appropriate statutory agencies during any investigation into abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of our Cathedral Church community.
4. We commit ourselves to respectful pastoral care for all children and adults to whom we minister.
5. We commit ourselves to promoting safe practice by those in positions of trust.
6. The Cathedral Church community adopts the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese.
7. Each person who works with vulnerable groups, including children, will agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by the Cathedral Church.
8. We are committed to reviewing our policy **annually**, and as part of this check that our Cathedral Church's safeguarding procedures are up-to-date and relevant.

Our Cathedral Church's Safeguarding Representative for Children and for Vulnerable Adults and Chapter Lead is:

The Revd Canon Harriet Neale-Stevens
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Our DBS Identity Validator and Safeguarding Administrators are:

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Signed

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27th September 2023

One copy for the parish records, one copy on the parish noticeboard and one copy to be sent to the Diocesan Safeguarding Administrator at Peninsular House