

The Barnham Broom and Upper Yare Group

Safeguarding Policy:

‘Promoting a Safer Church’

The following policy is agreed annually by the BBUY Group Council and subscribed to by all the PCCs of the Barnham Broom and Upper Yare Group through their several APCM meetings.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, our Benefice collectively is committed to:

* Promoting a safer environment and culture.
* Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
* Responding promptly to safeguarding concerns or allegations.

Furthermore the incumbent and any in leadership are committed to:

* Ensuring there is pastoral care for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons. It is expected that this will usually be provided through the Diocese but may on occasion be fulfilled locally.
* Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons. It is expected that this will usually be provided through the Diocese but may on occasion be fulfilled locally.
* Responding appropriately to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parishes of our Group either individually or collectively through Group Council will:

* Have a named Group Safeguarding Officer to work with the incumbent, volunteers and staff, the PCCs and Group Council, to implement policy and procedures.
* Satisfy themselves that any who are recruited whether as volunteers or as other staff are appropriately equipped to recognise and respond to abuse. Such a response should include taking steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding issue of any kind arises (whether historical or contemporary), following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
* Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
* Display on church premises and on the website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
* Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
* Be alert to the possibility that any persons attending or participating in services and events may pose a risk to children and adults, whilst taking appropriate steps to ensure the continued safety and wellbeing of all concerned.
* Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
* Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this Benefice.