

St Mary's

W H E A T L E Y

Safeguarding Policy

This policy is reviewed and approved by the Parochial Church Council each year.

Introduction

The PCC has adopted “Promoting a Safer Church” (2017), the House of Bishops’ safeguarding policy statement, and will display it in a prominent place. The PCC expects all members of St Mary’s church with leadership responsibilities to follow the St Mary’s safeguarding policy, and will display it in a prominent place.

We are committed to pursuing high standards in caring for children, young people and vulnerable adults. This document sets out general principles and guidelines for all those involved in working with them at St Mary’s. It is in line with the Church of England Safeguarding Children Policy “Protecting All God’s Children”, and also with the Diocese of Sheffield’s Safeguarding Policy, stated here:

As members of the Church of England we are concerned with the wholeness of each individual within God’s purpose for everyone. We seek to safeguard all members of the church community, of all ages. It is the responsibility of each one of us to protect children and young people from physical, emotional and sexual abuse, and from neglect.

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Part 1: Children and youth

Statement of aims in safeguarding

Our aims are:

- To offer young people opportunities to engage with the Christian faith in different contexts
- To encourage a strong Christian fellowship
- To encourage young people to take a full part in the church's life
- To provide a safe meeting place for young people
- To encourage young people to become responsible adults
- To provide indoor and outdoor leisure activities for young people that are safe and risk-assessed
- To uphold everyone's equality in the sight of God

This document covers the work of the parish with children and young people, in its services and in the groups meeting throughout the week.

Midweek groups

- Parent and toddler group (0-4 years, Fridays, 9.15 – 11am)
- One-to-one Bible studies (Various ages, days and times)

Sunday groups

- 0-4s Sunday 10.45 – 11.30am
- 4-10s Sundays 10.45 – 11.30am
- 10-14s Sundays 10.45 – 11.30am
- Music group Sundays 9.30 – 11.45am (various times for rehearsals)

This policy also covers any St Mary's ministry undertaken outside of the church buildings.

Ratios

The diocesan guideline ratios of adult helpers to children will be followed at all times.

Age group	Helpers	Children
0-2 years	1 for every	3
2-3 years	1 for every	4
4-8 years	1 for every	6
9-12 years	1 for every	8
13-18 years	1 for every	10

General Guidelines for Relating to Children

General attitude to children

We want to treat the children in our care with respect and dignity. Therefore we will want to:

- Avoid ridiculing, scapegoating or humiliating children
- Avoid showing favouritism to any particular children
- Be aware of speech, tone of voice and body language and the effect that it has on the children
- Treat each child as an individual and don't make unkind comparisons between children (whether peers or siblings)
- Work hard to encourage the children, highlighting their strengths and where appropriate giving them responsibilities

Physical contact

Physical contact is a normal part of many relationships. However we need to ensure that such contact is neither inappropriate nor misunderstood. Therefore we will want to:

- Keep everything public – avoid physical contact in any place that isn't open and in sight of others
- Remember that you will be stronger than most children
- Avoid engaging in rough games or behaviour or in any activity that puts the child at unnecessary risk of injury
- Avoid engaging in any activity or game that could be considered sexually provocative or stimulating
- Avoid touch which is inappropriate to the age of the child – touch should be related to the child or young person's needs, not the leader's. Touch should be age-appropriate and generally initiated by the child or young person, rather than the leader.
- All children and young people are entitled to personal privacy and the right to decide how much physical contact they have with others, except in circumstances such as a medical emergency
- Encourage each other to avoid behaviour that might be perceived to be inappropriate. This will usually mean raising our concerns with fellow leaders either on the spot (if urgent) or after the event. Where we have concerns that behaviour is inappropriate we may need to take further action – see below.
- When giving first aid (or applying sun cream etc), encourage the child or young person to do what they can themselves but, in their best interests giving appropriate help where necessary
- Team members should monitor one another in the area of physical contact. They should be free to help each other by constructively challenging anything which could be misunderstood or misconstrued.
- Concerns about abuse should always be reported

Toileting

Only female volunteers are to take children to the toilet. The disabled toilet should always be the one used, and should be checked before the child goes in. Helpers should never go into the toilet with a child.

If parents have consented to younger children being assisted with personal toilet care then female helpers with the relevant DBS check may do so, if they are happy to.

Discipline

From time to time, children will engage in unacceptable behaviour and, as responsible leaders, we must be ready to discipline them. Our fundamental principle is to discipline out of love for the individual and group rather than anger or irritation.

Dealing with unacceptable behaviour

- Act sooner rather than later – be observant and don't let situations get out of control
- Ensure that you understand the situation as fully as possible – give the children involved opportunity to explain
- Pinpoint the behaviour that you find unacceptable
- If appropriate, mention positive behaviour and encourage them to extend it
- Avoid raising past (and possibly unrelated) behaviour in general terms – e.g. 'What's wrong with you? You're always so selfish.'
- Explain to the child the implications of their behaviour for other individuals and the group as a whole
- Ask them to respect other individuals and the group
- If they refuse, lay down clear and specific rules and explain what will happen if these rules are not kept
- Ensure that you carry out the action that you have indicated
- Be more strict if children continue to misbehave – for example:
 - General request to behave acceptably
 - Specific rules (e.g., 'please don't climb on the table')
 - Separate child from others
 - Have the child sit in a particular place (e.g. in front of you or next to another leader)
 - Speak to their parents later
 - Send them out / take them to their parents now

After the event

- Reflect on why the child may be behaving in this way

- Reflect on whether the group can be led differently so the temptation for bad behaviour is removed (e.g. are the children bored?)
- Discuss persistent unacceptable behaviour with other leaders and decide on a consistent course of action
- Reflect on whether you should alert the child's parents and ask their advice

General guidelines

- Leaders should take a collective approach to discipline – don't side with a child against another leader or allow children to play leaders off against each other
- If you have concerns about the approach taken by a leader do raise your concerns but don't do it in front of the children – either take them aside there and then (if it is urgent) or speak to them afterwards
- Be wise in deciding whether to discipline a child in front of others or whether to take them to one side
- DO NOT use physical punishment (e.g., smacking)
- DO NOT shout; use a change of tone instead
- Stop abusive peer activities (e.g., ridiculing, bullying, name-calling) at the earliest opportunity and make it clear that they will not be tolerated

What to do if a child makes inappropriate advances or engages in inappropriate behaviour

- Tell the child that their language or behaviour is unacceptable, even if this is embarrassing for you or for them.
- Tell the group leader or Parish Safeguarding Officer of the incident, again, however embarrassing the incident might be.
- Agree with the group leader or Parish Safeguarding Officer what action should be taken to help the child and to minimise the chance of a recurrence.
- The group leader or Parish Safeguarding Officer should file a brief written record of the incident ideally within an hour (and certainly within 24 hours).

Health & safety

We must be careful to ensure the safety of the children in our care.

- Ensure that you have access to a phone and first aid kit in the place where you are meeting
- Take special care with children when:
 - crossing the road
 - going up and down stairs
 - hot liquids are present (e.g., kitchen)
- Ensure that after the group has finished, the children are supervised until they are picked up by their parents or carers
- Ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of parents' contact details
- Ensure that you are familiar with any specific medical requirements of the children in your care – these are detailed on the "Children's and youth consent forms" in the "Sunday groups" box file in the lockable children's work cupboard in the large hall.
- Do not allow children with infectious illnesses to attend the group
- Familiarise yourself with what to do in the event of a fire
- Ensure basic hygiene in the preparation of food and drink

General Precautions for the Care of Children

We must take reasonable precautions to ensure the safety and comfort of the children who are entrusted to our care. Although the process can seem excessive it is designed for everyone's benefit and is not meant to be frustrating.

Selection of volunteer leaders

All those who will be leading or helping with children's groups will be asked:

- to fill in a Sheffield Diocese Confidential Declaration form;
- to obtain two references using the “reference for a volunteer leader” form;
- to undergo an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, including a request to know if they are named on the ‘Barred List’;
- to undertake the relevant safeguarding training.

Referees must not be family members, and ideally should be from outside the St Mary’s congregation. At least one should be a professional referee. The DBS check must be specifically for children’s work at St Mary’s. While an application for a DBS check is being processed, a new helper may join in with a children’s group but only if they are under the supervision of an experienced, DBS-checked leader. All helpers and leaders must also undergo suitable diocesan safeguarding training.

Only once the Parish Safeguarding Officer is satisfied that suitable scrutiny has taken place will the individual be able to take up a position involving work with children. It will be our general practice to have leaders avoid situations where they are on their own with a child or group of children.

DBS and other checks should ordinarily be completed before a person can start in any role. But because training may not be available immediately and could consist of several sessions over time it is not necessary to have everything completed before starting as long as it is done as soon as possible. This does not apply to someone starting as a “senior children’s leader.”

It is recommended that children and young people’s activities take place in church buildings to avoid additional risks of home-based ministry. If essential, a group can be led in a home (e.g., girls’ discipleship group) because we have completed a risk assessment and our church insurance covers it¹. (The vicarage is exempt if no vicarage family members are leaders and it is merely used as a venue, e.g., 10-14s on a Sunday morning.)

It is fine to have a married couple plus only one other leader in a children’s group. It is best practice to avoid having leaders who are all male. Whilst aiming for that, national guidance recognises it isn’t always possible for various reasons (e.g., last minute changes or temporary measures when you just don’t have the right people available).

For 0-4s, if a parent sits in simply as a parent, their child doesn’t count towards the total number of children, but nor does the parent count towards the number of leaders. If the parent is counted as a leader, they need to be DBS-checked and trained.

Parental and child information

Prior to a child being involved in a children’s group, we will ask those responsible for the child to complete a “Children’s and youth consent form.”

From a safeguarding point of view it is acceptable for children to attend a church service without their parents. Parents should agree beforehand to take responsibility for their children travelling to and from church. The church will ensure that a children’s leader (or, if necessary, some other leader who is DBS-checked and safeguarding trained) takes responsibility for the children while they are at church. Ideally parents will arrange this in advance. Ecclesiastical Insurance have confirmed we are covered for this.

Registers

We will keep accurate records of the attendance of children and adults.

¹ Our policy will indemnify the PCC if held legally liable for accidental bodily injury or damage to third party property in connection with such a group. Our public liability cover is for PCC organised activities anywhere within the UK and is not limited to activities which take place on church premises.

Accident / near miss report forms

An accident is any unplanned event where someone is hurt, and a near miss is when someone could have been hurt if the circumstances had been slightly different. An accident/near miss form should be completed by the person involved, and returned to a staff member as soon as possible. It will be reviewed at the next staff meeting, and any necessary action will then be taken.

Forms can be found in the “accident/near miss forms” folder in the kitchen.

Maintaining records

Records will be stored in the lockable filing cabinet in the church office. This includes:

- Completed volunteer checklist forms
- Completed registers
- Completed Confidential Declaration forms
- Completed “reference for a volunteer leader” forms
- Completed accident/near miss report forms
- Completed “children’s and youth consent forms” for past years

Information stored in the lockable children’s work cupboard in the large church hall includes:

- Completed “Children’s and youth consent forms” for the current year
- Completed “parent and toddler group contact forms” for the current year
- Registers currently in use

These records will be kept for appropriate periods in line with our data privacy notice.

Training

We want to be able offer children the best possible care and leadership. Therefore we are committed to ongoing training in teaching and looking after children (including the areas described in this document). All leaders should read this safeguarding policy and comply with it.

Photography

Images count as personal data. Choices about photos in our “children’s and youth consent form” must be respected. If a photograph is taken by a group leader on their mobile phone for the purposes of a game or activity, this must be deleted immediately after use.

During church events, a parent/guardian must be asked for permission before a photo is taken of their children, or if a child is asked to do something that would put them in an online service video (if being produced).

Phone, email & social media contact (year 9 and above)

Leaders should not contact a young person directly unless permission has been given in the “children’s and youth consent form.” A second leader or parent should be copied into any messages. Screenshots of messages must be emailed to the church safeguarding email address (stmaryswheatleysafeguarding@gmail.com), and any emails must blind copy (BCC) in that same address. Before sending a message please think how it could be interpreted by the young person.

When using social media keep everything public and accessible to all users. Ensure social media is moderated and there is appropriate access and password verification. Ensure the page you are using is for ministry purposes and not a personal page.

1-to-1 arrangements

1-to-1 Bible studies are to be encouraged as a wonderful way of discipling young people, but leaders must be vigilant. The following guidance must be followed:

- Meetings must always take place in a public venue or with another leader present.
- Young people must always feel comfortable with the leader and know they are able to leave at any time.

Travel arrangements

Parents must be reminded that it is their responsibility to transport children to and from groups. Leaders must never be left alone with a young person, including car trips or walking them home (unless parental consent has been explicitly given). Where groups are being transported, the driver must ensure that suitable car seats are provided and parental consent has been given.

Abuse and Neglect

Sadly, abuse and neglect do occur. Without being paranoid we need to recognise this and to be alert to the possibility either within or outside of St Mary's. An explanation and some signs of abuse and neglect are given in Part 3. The following explains what action should be taken if abuse is alleged or suspected.

What to do if a child begins a conversation about abusive behaviour

The aim is to ensure that the child is given the opportunity to make the statement they want to make, as clearly and as fully as possible. This is not the time to investigate or to judge the matter. If possible try to have another adult present whilst the child speaks (perhaps by delaying the conversation). However, don't prevent the child from speaking if this is not a possibility or if it would unduly inhibit the child.

Things to do

- **Provide an environment in which the child can explain clearly and fully the nature of their complaint**
 - Give the child time to talk freely and without fear of being overheard
 - Give the child your full attention
 - Try to be sympathetic and to reassure the child that it is right to speak with you, e.g. 'Thank you for telling me'
 - Stay with the child until you feel they have said everything they want to say
- **Explain**
 - Explain to the child what you will do next in a way that they can understand and assure them that you will let them know what happens.
 - Find out whether they would be happy to speak to another adult about what they have said.
 - Try not to leave them in a distressed state.
- **Follow up the incident**
 - Write down as fully as possible the content of the conversation, using the child's actual words where possible. Include what you said and any observations of how the child appeared. Do this as soon as possible (ideally within an hour, and certainly within 24 hours).
 - Speak as soon as possible to a 'responsible person' as explained in the next section
 - Don't speak to anyone else about the matter at this stage
 - If the child needs urgent medical attention, ensure that they receive it as soon as possible
 - Ensure that the child is kept informed of what is happening
 - Until further action is taken, where there is continued contact with the child, try to ensure that this is as normal as possible. Only discuss the issue further if the child raises it.
- **Remember**
 - that the child may want the abuse to stop but still love the abuser
 - that the child may think that you are able to stop the abuse without anything else happening
 - that the child may have been bribed or threatened not to talk
- **Pray**

Things to avoid

- **Promising secrecy or confidentiality:** Gently explain that you will need to tell other responsible adults for the benefit of the child.
- **Investigating:** Be very careful not to put words into the child's mouth and don't press for information. Avoid asking questions except where it is absolutely necessary to clarify a point of detail.
- **Judging the situation:** Don't pass judgment on the child or the matter being presented. Just collect information. Even if they appear to you to have acted unwisely or to have broken a rule, don't criticize them, e.g. 'Why didn't you tell me earlier?'
- **Embellishing details:** When making a disclosure to a responsible person (see below) try to recount only the facts the child gave, not what you suspect to be the case. This is important for the report to be accurate.
- **Panic or shock:** Try to be calm. Avoid saying anything that might make the child feel more embarrassed about talking to you, e.g. 'I can't believe it!' 'Are you sure that this is true?'

Part 2: Vulnerable adults

Statement of aims in safeguarding

Our aims are:

- To offer people opportunities to engage with the Christian faith in different contexts
- To encourage a strong Christian fellowship
- To encourage all people to take a full part in the church's life
- To provide a safe meeting place for all people
- To encourage all people to become responsible adults
- To provide indoor and outdoor leisure activities for all people that are safe and risk-assessed
- To uphold everyone's equality in the sight of God

This document covers the work of the parish in its services and midweek groups.

Regular midweek groups

- Home groups (Various times throughout the week)
- Church prayer meeting (7.45 – 9.15pm – first Wednesday of each month)
- Practising home communion (Various times throughout the month)
- One-to-one Bible studies (Various times throughout the week)

Regular Sunday groups

- Morning service (10.30am – 12.30pm)
- Music group (9:30 – 11:45am; various times for rehearsals)

1. We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that each of us may be regarded as vulnerable at some time in our lives.
2. As church members we commit ourselves to respectful pastoral care for all.
3. We commit ourselves to the safeguarding of people who may be vulnerable.
4. We commit ourselves to promoting safe practice by those in positions of responsibility.
5. We commit ourselves to promoting the inclusion and empowerment of people who may be vulnerable.
6. It is the responsibility of each of us to prevent the physical, emotional, sexual, financial and spiritual abuse of vulnerable people, and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
7. We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with people who may be vulnerable.
8. We are committed to training and reviewing those who undertake work amongst people who may be vulnerable.
9. The parish adopts the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese.
10. Each person who works with vulnerable people must comply with this safeguarding policy.
11. When selecting leaders for groups where vulnerable adults are likely to be present, we will follow the same steps as for selecting children's leaders, outlined above.

This church appoints our safeguarding officer to represent the concerns and views of vulnerable adults at our meetings and to outside bodies.

Online meetings (when applicable)

The same guidelines as for in-person meetings apply, plus:

- All involved in a service must be made aware it is being recorded and uploaded to YouTube
- Details to access certain meetings (e.g. home groups, PCC, church prayer meetings) will only be shared with the appropriate people
- No video or screenshots will be taken of any meetings without explicit permission of all involved
- Meetings will be set up in a way to minimise potential abuse e.g. disable screensharing, using a password

Domestic abuse statement

We are committed to promoting and supporting environments which:

- ensure that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse;
- protect those vulnerable to domestic abuse from actual or potential harm;
- recognise equality amongst people and within relationships;
- enable and encourage concerns to be raised and responded to appropriately and consistently.

We recognise that:

- all forms of domestic abuse cause damage to the survivor and express an imbalance of power in the relationship;
- all survivors (regardless of age, disability, sex, race, religion, sexuality etc) have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- domestic abuse can occur in all communities;
- domestic abuse may be a single incident, but is usually a systematic, repeated pattern which escalates in severity and frequency;
- domestic abuse, if witnessed or overheard by a child, is also a form of abuse against the child;
- working in partnership with children, adults and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of any child or adult suffering abuse.

We will endeavour to respond to domestic abuse by:

- Listening to and respecting both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators.
- Raising awareness about other agencies and resources through providing information in the toilets (i.e., women-only and men-only areas) that is of relevance to survivors, children and perpetrators.
- Ensuring that those who have experienced abuse can find help and safety, and by working with the appropriate statutory bodies during an investigation – including when allegations are made against a member of the church community.
- Ensuring that informed pastoral care is offered to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse.

Part 3: Reporting and recognising abuse and neglect

What to do if you receive an allegation of abuse, or suspect abuse of any kind

If you suspect that some form of abuse has taken place (whether in the context of a St Mary's activity or elsewhere), or any allegation is made to you by a child or an adult, please contact the Parish Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible. Our safeguarding "who's who" poster mentions three "responsible leaders," named below. These are a deliberate mix of men and women to make it as easy as possible for people to get in touch, and are a mix of staff and non-staff to make leaders colluding in abuse less likely. The normal task of the responsible leaders is simply to take the individual to the Parish Safeguarding Officer. If the suspicion or allegation involves the Parish Safeguarding Officer, another responsible leader should put the individual in touch with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser. If all three responsible leaders are implicated, the individual should contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser directly.

- Parish Safeguarding Officer: **Peter Greenman**
- Vicar: **Andy Thomas**
- Reader: **Rosemary Neill**

If a disclosure is made, the Parish Safeguarding Officer will:

- Keep a concise record of what has been disclosed, i.e., who was involved; what was said to have happened (facts not opinions); and the place, date and time it was disclosed.
- If necessary, email this record to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.
- If the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser is unavailable, and it is deemed appropriate, call the police or Doncaster Council (visit www.doncaster.gov.uk and click on "children, young people and families" or "adult social care," or phone 01302 736000).

If the Parish Safeguarding Officer is unavailable (e.g., on holiday), one of the other responsible leaders will take the above steps, and tell the others they have done so.

If at any stage you feel someone is at risk of significant harm to themselves or others, or if a crime has been or may have been committed, you should contact the police or Doncaster Council immediately.

It is important to be open and honest with the person from the outset about who you will share information with and why. It is not a breach of confidentiality to seek advice from e.g. the Parish Safeguarding Officer or Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.

If you are not satisfied with the action that has been taken, then you retain a responsibility as a member of the public to report serious matters to Doncaster Council and should do so without hesitation.

What are abuse and neglect?

(a) Abuse

Abuse is causing harm to a person. People can also be at risk of abuse, which should also be taken seriously. Abuse can take a number of forms, which can commonly co-exist. They include the following:

- Emotional abuse:** Persistent emotional ill-treatment such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the person's emotional development. It may involve communicating that someone is worthless, unloved or inadequate. It may also involve frequently frightening them, making them feel in danger, or persistently rejecting or humiliating them.
- Physical abuse:** Causing physical harm to someone.
- Sexual abuse:** Unwilling involvement of someone in sexual activity or sexually inappropriate behaviour (including the use or production of pornography).

- iv. **Domestic abuse:** Domestic abuse is any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of their sex or sexuality.
- v. **Spiritual abuse:** Within faith communities harm can be caused by the inappropriate use of religious belief or practice, including the misuse of leadership authority or discipline, misuse of Scripture, oppressive teaching, enforced accountability and pressure to conform, requirements for secrecy and silence, isolation from others external to the abuse context, censorship of decision making, denial of the opportunity to explore the gospel or to grow in faith, or healing and deliverance ministries which result in emotional harm.
- vi. **Group leaders should also be aware that other forms of abuse can occur:**
 - Fabricated or induced illness
 - Trafficking
 - Forced marriage

(b) Neglect

Neglect involves a persistent failure to meet someone's basic needs. This includes failure to provide adequate food, shelter, clothing or appropriate medical care.

General observations

- Abuse may be spontaneous, or organised (which involves one person or more).
- Most cases of abuse or neglect involve those already known to the person rather than complete strangers.
- Adults with special needs are especially vulnerable to abuse.

What signs are there of abuse?

Abuse and neglect can be difficult to spot. Any of the following indicators may be a sign, but in many cases there will be another explanation.

General indicators / indicators of emotional abuse

In general, changes in someone's behaviour or mood, either suddenly or over a period of time, may be significant. Such changes may be particularly important where someone becomes more withdrawn or more aggressive. Examples of such changes are listed below.

Mood

- Anxiety or depression
- 'Frozen watchfulness'
- Loss of ability to learn or concentrate
- Obsessions, phobias or fears
- Loss of self-esteem

Behaviour towards others

- Excessive attention seeking
- Running away or withdrawal
- Aggression
- Stealing or lying
- 'Clinginess'

Lifestyle

- Loss of appetite
- Eating disorders
- Self-harming
- Severe sleep disturbances and persistent tiredness

Indicators of physical abuse

- Reluctance to reveal parts of the body (e.g. removing a jumper even though they're hot)
- Repeated tummy pains
- Marks of injury, especially injuries which:
 - have not received medical attention
 - are not consistent with the explanation provided
 - occur to the body in places not usually exposed to falls and other accidents.
- Guide to injuries
 - Bruises, especially:
 - those in or around the mouth
 - those of different colours (indicating injuries of different ages)
 - those from fingertips, especially on arms, chest or face indicating tight gripping or shaking
 - those from a belt, implement, or hand
 - those around ear-lobes (also signs of tears)
 - those to head or soft tissue areas of the body
 - Bite-marks
 - Burns and scalds, especially:
 - those with a clear outline – in particular circular (e.g. cigarette burn) or linear (e.g. from hot metal rod)
 - those of a uniform depth over a large area
 - those caused by friction (e.g. from being pulled across a carpet)
 - those surrounded by a clear water line (e.g. from immersion or pouring of hot water)
 - those surrounded by splash marks (e.g. where hot liquid has been thrown)
 - those that have caused scars (indicating previous burns)
 - Fractures
 - Cuts, scratches

Indicators of sexual abuse

- Inappropriate sexual behaviour towards adults or children
- Preoccupation with sexual matters and requests for sexual advice
- Repeated urinary infections
- Allusions to unusual practices (e.g. unusual bed-sharing arrangements at home)

Indicators of neglect

- Under-nourishment
- Failure to grow
- Constant hunger
- Stealing food
- Untreated illness

Rev Andy Thomas, Vicar

Jeremy Johnson, Churchwarden

Mark Wilson, Churchwarden

Date 5 May 2026

(Update hard copies on noticeboards and pdf on website.)