

Our commitment to vulnerable adults

It is the policy of the Church of Ireland to safeguard all vulnerable adults sharing in its ministry and to protect them from all forms of harm and abuse.

The Parish of Saintfield adheres to the Church of Ireland Adult Safeguarding Code of Good Practice.

It applies to all bishops, clergy, staff and volunteers but especially those who have regular contact with adults who may be more at risk of harm or abuse because of their personal or life circumstances.



What to do if

I want to raise a concern about a child's /vulnerable adult's safety?

Contact directly Mrs Kathryn Beattie or Rev Chris Pollock.

They will quickly arrange to meet and listen carefully to what your concern is and will then meet with the whole Panel. We will immediately pass on your concern (if necessary) to the Statutory bodies / Police / Diocesan Office who (if necessary)will proceed. In all of this, the safety of the child / vulnerable adult is paramount.

I want to raise a concern or make a complaint about a volunteer/staff member?

Contact Mrs Kathryn Beattie or Rev Chris Pollock.

They will quickly arrange to meet and listen carefully to what your concern is and will then meet with the whole Panel. We will immediately pass on your concern (if necessary) to the Diocesan Office who will set in motion any necessary further action.

If this concerns the Church Minister, the Chairperson will inform the Panel and Vestry. The Diocesan Panel will be contacted and if deemed necessary a process of investigation will begin.

Saintfield Parish (Church of Ireland)



Safeguarding 2024

A leaflet to explain our commitment to Safeguarding in relation to children and vulnerable adults.



Safeguarding Panel

Mrs Kathryn Beattie (Chair)
07703 258228

Kathryn is a Primary School teacher with Safeguarding responsibilities. She is very experienced in this role and committed to the protection and well being of all children.

Mr Ian Logan

Mrs Rosemary Armstrong

Mrs Joy Whitley

Rev Chris Pollock
Tel: 07519668747

Chris is the Minister of Saintfield Parish and has been involved in Safeguarding for many years. He is usually the first point of contact for many people.

He is also the Safeguarding Representative on Academy Primary School Board of Governors.

Welcome to
Saintfield Parish Safeguarding.



Select Vestry oversight.

The Select Vestry as trustees are responsible for the implementation and maintaining our commitment to Safeguarding. They do this through a 'Safeguarding Panel' named on this leaflet.

The Panel are both Access N.I. cleared and trained regularly by the Diocese of Down and Dromore Safeguarding department.

The Panel address all safeguarding needs in a confidential and professional manner. They never share details with the Vestry but report back every month the status of the Panel's work.

At some point, the Diocesan Safeguarding Panel will ultimately be involved in the process and kept up to date. They require a yearly audit to ensure the Vestry is achieving good practise in regard to all safeguarding matters.

Our commitment to children.

The Church of Ireland believes that children should never experience abuse of any kind.

Everyone has a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and to keep them safe.



The Church of Ireland is committed to implementing procedures and practices which safeguard all children.

The Parish of Saintfield adheres to Safeguarding Trust: the Church of Ireland Code of Good Practice for Ministry with Children.

It is designed to enable all parties within the Church of Ireland to fulfil their proper responsibilities within this ministry.

The Safeguarding Officer for Northern Ireland can provide advice and support in all matters of child and adult safeguarding. Any issues or concerns can be reported directly to:

Mrs Gillian Taylor
Tel: (028) 9082 8860