

Safeguarding Policy Statement of the Parish of Penwortham St Mary

The following policy was agreed by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) on 20th October 2025

1. Our Commitment

In accordance with the Church of England's **House of Bishops Safeguarding Guidance and Safeguarding Code of Practice**, we are 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.
- **Responding promptly** to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- **Caring pastorally** for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons.
- **Caring pastorally** for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- **Responding to those that may pose a present risk** to others.

We will ensure that:

- All those who work with children, young people or adults at risk have been safely recruited and appropriately trained.
- All safeguarding concerns or allegations are responded to promptly, following national and diocesan guidance.
- We cooperate fully with statutory agencies during any investigation.
- We offer appropriate pastoral care and support to all those involved in safeguarding concerns.

2. Safeguarding Roles and Responsibilities

- Our **Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)** is: Gillian Carlton
Email: stmarys.penwortham.safeguarding@gmail.com Phone: 07351 523142
- The **Incumbent** is: Chris Nelson
- The PCC takes full responsibility for ensuring this policy is implemented, reviewed annually, and displayed publicly.

3. Reporting Concerns

Any safeguarding concern relating to a child, young person or vulnerable adult must be reported **immediately** to the Parish Safeguarding Officer or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. If there is immediate danger, call 999.

4. Review and Implementation

This policy will be reviewed annually by the PCC and updated as necessary to remain compliant with Church of England and statutory guidance.

This policy was signed by the Incumbent, Churchwarden & Parish Safeguarding Officer
20th October 2025