

# CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

St Mary's Church works within the framework of its Child Protection Policy and part of this procedure is to take up two references and to obtain a Criminal Records Bureau disclosure (CRB) at enhanced level for all those who will be involved with children and young people either on a regular or occasional basis and on a paid or voluntary basis. A full copy of the Child Protection policy is available on request and a member of the CP team should be contacted. The members of the St. Mary's Child Protection team are Anthia Page (Child Protection Officer), Peter Fall (Child Protection Officer responsible for signing off risk assessments), Elizabeth Sykes (Assistant Child Protection Officer) and Anne Yolland (CRB officer).

The PCC of St. Mary's have issued the following statement regarding Child Protection

*"Part of St. Mary's Mission statement says that we will be a learning, growing and caring Church. For many years now St. Mary's has been a church that has welcomed children and young people wherever they are on their journey and seeks to nurture these explorers into leadership positions within the church. However, whilst enabling this to happen, we must satisfy ourselves that everything is being done to provide an environment for children and young people where they are safe from harm.*

*If St. Mary's takes seriously the charge given by Jesus to welcome children (Luke 9:48) to protect them (Matthew 18: 6-10) and to allow free access to him (Mark 10:13-16) then it must also take Child Protection issues seriously as well."*