

The Parish of St John The Baptist, Hey

Policy Statement



Adults experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or Neglect

Also known as **Vulnerable Adults**

This policy statement is subject to annual review and was agreed by the PCC on 18th October 2020

As a church community we are committed to:

- The care, nurture of and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children and adults.
- The safeguarding and protection of all children and adults.
- The establishment of safe, caring communities which provide an environment where there is a culture of informed vigilance regarding the dangers of abuse.
- Paying special attention to those adults who may be vulnerable, either because they may be suffering domestic abuse or those with failing capacity / physical ability / mental ability. We will:
 - Ensure that all feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse when in our care.
 - Encourage those who may be vulnerable to:
 - Lead as independent a life as possible
 - Choose how to lead their life
 - Continue to be active contributors to church life.

As a Church community we will strive to:

- Enable and encourage concerns to be raised and responded to respectfully.
- Offer support and care for those suffering, or who have suffered, from any form of abuse.
- Promote respect and value each person as a child of God.
- Remember that abuse comes in many disguises - physical, financial, neglect & omission, sexual, emotional, psychological (bullying etc), discriminatory, institutional, and on the phone / internet.
- Keep an eye out for signs of possible abuse in a vulnerable person, such as changes in:
 - circumstances and behaviour
 - state of dress and care
 - becoming isolated and no longer regularly attending church
 - Low self esteem, anxiety, dispiritment.

Any concerns about a third party are to be discussed in confidence with the Parish priest or the Church Wardens. *

As a church community we acknowledge that we all have a responsibility in recognising those who are vulnerable and ensuring their care.

* In the case of abuse then they will report to the appropriate authorities as required by law