**SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

This statement was adopted by The Parish of St Mary, Monkseaton

at the meeting of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) held on 21st June 2023

As members of this Parish, we commit ourselves to care for one another safely.

We recognize that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that each of us may be regarded as at risk at some time in our lives.

We commit ourselves to:

* the safeguarding of people who may be at risk, ensuring their well-being in the life of this church.
* promoting safe practice by those in positions of trust.
* promoting the inclusion and empowerment of people who may be at risk.
* recruit safely following the recognised procedures
* supporting, resourcing, training and regularly reviewing those who undertake work with children/young people and adults who might be at risk.

It is the responsibility of each of us to prevent physical, emotional, sexual, financial and spiritual abuse. We will report any abuse that we discover or suspect.

We agree to adopt the House of Bishops’ document 'Promoting a Safer Church' and to work within the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Sue Johnson as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

This policy is reviewed each year by the Parochial Church Council and re-

affirmed at the Annual Meeting.

The Church of England national policy is at

<https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/policy-and-practice-guidance>

This provides contact details of specialist agencies who are available to assist.

If you have a safeguarding concern, you can contact-

Carol Butler, Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor c.butler@newcastle.anglican.org 07825167016

Incumbent Revd Nigel Taylor

Churchwardens Mrs Carol Nesbitt

 Mr John Appleby

Date: 23rd November 2023