

## SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION STATEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Paul Skelmersdale

The Church of England recognises the unique status of children and young people within the Christian tradition. There is a particular responsibility to respect them as individuals, protect their vulnerability and nurture them. Jesus had a high regard for children and called his followers to strongly identify with children.

As Christians, we are therefore required by God to foster relationships of the utmost integrity, truthfulness and trustworthiness. The trust and dependency of children and young people must never be betrayed by those who work with the Church community.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, SKELMERSDALE THEREFORE COMMITS ITSELF TO PROVIDING A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL ITS WORK WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

- This Church endorses and will implement the Diocesan policy of Protection for All;
- This Parish accepts the principles for protecting children outlined in the Home Office's Safe from Harm Code of Practice and will implement the best possible practice;
- The highest standards will be maintained in all its contact with children and young people and adult volunteers will be given appropriate training and support;
- The exploitation of any relationship for self-gratification will not be tolerated and allegations of the abuse of children will be taken seriously and the appropriate authorities informed;
- This Parish has clear procedures for supporting and supervising all its work with children and young people. Please contact our church office if you would like to see our full policy.