

DOMESTIC ABUSE POLICY

November 2019

1. All forms of domestic abuse are wrong and must stop. We are committed to promoting and supporting environments which:

- ensure that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse;
- protect those vulnerable to domestic abuse from actual or potential harm;
- recognise equality amongst people and within relationships;
- enable and encourage concerns to be raised and responded to appropriately and consistently.

2. We recognise that

- all forms of domestic abuse cause damage to the survivor and express an imbalance of power in the relationship;
- all survivors (regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity) have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- domestic abuse can occur in all communities;
- domestic abuse may be a single incident, but is usually a systematic, repeated pattern which escalates in severity and frequency;
- domestic abuse, if witnessed or overheard by a child, is a form of abuse by the perpetrator of the abusive behaviour;
- working in partnership with children, adults and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of any child or adult suffering abuse.

3. We will endeavour to respond to domestic abuse by:

In all our activities –

- valuing, listening to and respecting both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.

In our publicity –

- raising awareness about other agencies, support services, resources and expertise, through providing information in public and single sex areas of relevance to survivors, children and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse. One way of doing this will be to display the notice in Appendix A below in the Parish Centre and the Newton Hall.

When concerns are raised –

- ensuring that those who have experienced abuse can find safety and informed help
- working with the appropriate statutory bodies during an investigation into domestic abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the church community.

In our care –

- ensuring that informed and appropriate pastoral care is offered to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse;
- identifying and outlining the appropriate relationship of those with pastoral care responsibilities with both survivors and alleged or known perpetrators of domestic abuse.

4. People to consult

If you have any concerns or need to talk to anyone please contact

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Carl Brooks-Plunkett – 0114 257 7444 or 07702 159009
41, Housley Park, Chapelton S35 2UE

Vicar:

Rick Stordy - 0114 257 0966 or 07812 924926
23, Housley Park, Chapelton S35 2UE

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser:

01709 309100 or out of hours: 0303 003 1111

or in emergency the Archdeacon, Malcolm Chamberlain – 07740 198806

National Domestic Violence helpline:

24 hours a day, 7 days a week - 0808 2000 247

Sheffield Domestic Abuse helpline:

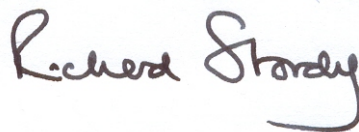
Monday-Friday 8am-8pm - 0808 808 2241

In emergency, if someone is at risk of immediate harm, call 999.

This policy has been read and agreed by the following on behalf of the P.C.C.

Date of P.C.C. Approval: 18 November 2019

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Sturdy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Designation: Vicar

Date of review and renewal: July 2020

APPENDIX A:

NOTICE FOR DISPLAY IN THE PARISH CENTRE & NEWTON HALL



Concerned about domestic abuse?

Help available at St. John's:

As a church we:

- acknowledge, with sadness, that domestic abuse is a reality in this broken world and that this can happen within the church community
 - know that physical abuse is not the only way abuse happens
- recognise that such abuse breaks God's law and the law of the land
 - want to support and care for all those affected, and will do so in partnership with statutory agencies with the aim of ending the abuse
 - encourage anyone affected – whether as perpetrators or those suffering – to contact us
 - believe that, in Christ, there is hope in every situation

You can contact:

- our **Parish Safeguarding Officer** Carl Brooks-Plunkett on **07702 159009**
 - our **Vicar**, Rick Stordy on **07812 924926**
- our **Pastoral Worker**, Sylvia Charles on **0114 246 8028**
 - you may also want to contact the **National Domestic Violence helpline** on: **0808 2000 247**

We are aware that other forms of **harassment and bullying** can also be hard to talk about and want to help there too.