Wakefield Cathedral Safeguarding Policy Statement 2026-7

Approved by Chapter: ***25 November 2026***
Date for review: ***24 November 2027***
Responsible officer: ***Chapter Safeguarding Lead***

The Cathedral adopts, and will follow, the Church of England's Policy Statement *Promoting a Safer Church*. In particular, we commit to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Cathedral will:

- Work to create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Safeguarding lead for Chapter and a Safeguarding Officer (CSO) to work with the Dean and the Chapter to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the cathedral.
- Display in cathedral premises and on the website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the cathedral community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Reflect on lessons learnt regularly and use them to shape and revise policy and practise.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works or volunteers within this cathedral community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this cathedral. This policy should be read in conjunction with *Promoting a Safer Church*, available on the Church of England website or from the Cathedral Office.

Canon Danny Wilks is the nominated Chapter Member for Safeguarding.

Chapter appoints **Andrea Farmery** as the Cathedral Safeguarding Officer.

Signed: P P Hobday ..... The Very Revd Dr P P Hobday, Dean of Wakefield

Date: 25th November 2026