

Parish of the Resurrection Policy on Domestic Abuse



This statement was adopted by The Parish of the Resurrection Alton at a Parochial Church Meeting held on:

and is applicable to St Peter's Church Beech, The Church of the Holy Rood Holybourne, All Saints Church Alton & St Lawrence Church Alton.

Domestic Abuse Safeguarding Policy Statement

- We affirm that domestic abuse is always wrong, is contrary to God's intention in human relationships and is a sin.
- We will not accept, condone or tolerate abusive behaviour in relationships. Any such behaviour must be repented of by the abuser before God before forgiveness is possible.
- We undertake to make those involved in teaching and pastoral care aware of pastoral and theological issues.
- We will make links and work with local specialist domestic abuse organisations in order to keep victims and their children safe, recognise levels of risk and appropriately deal with any cases presented to us. We will not undertake to deal with domestic abuse on our own.
- We will undertake to include discussion of domestic violence and abuse, relationships, communication and conflict resolution in marriage preparation.
- This parish will not use its belief in the sanctity of marriage as a weapon to 'encourage' victims to remain in abusive relationships or to accept back an abusive partner.
- All those working with children and young people will be made aware of the need to be alert for domestic abuse and know to respond.
- All leaders will be responsible for considering how they use their power and the messages this may convey.
- This parish takes issues of domestic abuse seriously and will, as appropriate, speak out publicly against it.
- We believe the Gospel must be presented as good news to those who experience domestic abuse, in so doing we will take care to ensure our language and way of speaking about God does not alienate those who for whom a male role is not helpful.
- We believe the gospel is also good news for those who perpetrate abuse. There is hope for forgiveness and change in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- We formally repent of any behaviours or attitudes within this parish which may have contributed to a condoning or legitimising of abuse.

This Parish Policy statement is taken from the Winchester Diocesan Manual.

The PCC has therefore adopted the Winchester Diocese Policy in its entirety which is available on the Diocesan Website or in paper copy in The Parish Office.

Mrs Tori Hewitt is the appointed person by the PCC as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

The PCC is committed to on-going training and will regularly review the policy and procedures.

VICAR:

PCC REPRESENTATIVE:

DATE: