



St. Michael & All Angels

CHURCH IN THE PARK | LIVING, LOVING, SERVING

The Parish of St Michael and All Angels, Hughenden Statement of Health & Safety Policy

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 20th January 2022. It should be read in conjunction with the Health & Safety Local Organisation & Arrangements Document (LOAD), which sets out who is responsible for specific actions and the detail of what we are going to do in practice to achieve the aims set out in this Statement. Together these documents form our Health & Safety Policy.

As a church we understand that we owe a duty of care to ensure the safety of those who visit or use our church and associated grounds and buildings. We also seek to protect those people that work at the church, including volunteers and contractors, and we have a legal obligation to comply with applicable health and safety laws.

Our overarching objective is to ensure that:

- so far as is reasonably practicable, our activities are carried out safely and do not pose a risk to the health of our workers, congregation, visitors and others who may use the church, churchyard or any other building we are responsible for;
- our activities are carried out in accordance with good practice and that, where they apply, we always comply with any relevant statutory provisions.

The PCC accepts it has overall responsibility for achieving this objective and will ensure that adequate resources are made available to achieve it and that our decisions have due regard for it.

It is the duty of all of those who work in the church, to exercise personal responsibility for their own safety and that of others. We seek to ensure that everyone involved with the church plays their part in the implementation of this Policy. To help achieve this, the PCC seeks to create a culture of respect and responsibility amongst its committee members and those who work on its behalf such that, together, we strive to meet the following 3 aims every day:

1. Zero incidents: Ensure that the church remains an incident-free environment that prevents injuries and illnesses by mitigating risk.
2. Zero harm: Promote the wellbeing of others through safeguarding, pastoral care and engagement.
3. Zero compromise: Empower people to feel that they can challenge any unsafe conditions, acts or disrespectful actions.

We will keep health and safety matters under review at appropriate intervals. We will monitor the effectiveness of the Policy, amending it where it is no longer valid or needs enhancing.

This Policy will be brought to the attention of all of those who work in the church (including volunteers and contractors). Furthermore, a copy of it shall be put on display at the Church and kept on our electronic 'Sharepoint site' (which can be accessed via the website), such that it can be made available to others on request.