**Safeguarding Policy**

**Thornthwaite, Braithwaite and Newlands**

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 8th May 2025. In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed 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 Parish will:

* Create a safe and caring place for all.
* Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC 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. Disclosure and Barring Service checks are included in this process.
* Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
* Display in church premises and on the Parish 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 church 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.
* Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the

guidelines established by this church. Mrs Mary Wardle has been appointed as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Incumbent

Revd Andy Murphie

**Safeguarding - Promoting a Safer Church**

**Contact Information**

Our parish of Thornthwaite cum Braithwaite with Newlands is committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults from harm. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO). Our Diocese of Carlisle’s safeguarding pages contain vital links and information including contacts for the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor who advises our PSO.

If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm please contact the PSO Mrs Mary Wardle 017687 78817  bill.mary61@yahoo.com or the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor Joanna van Lachterop, on 07458 016884 safeguarding.adviser@carlislediocese.org.uk . If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police and your local authority’s children or adult social care services.

**Out of Hours Support:**
If Joanna is unavailable and you are concerned that an adult is being abused, or at risk, you should report it by contacting Adult Social Care, Cumberland Council.  Emergency Out of Hours - 01228 526690

If you are concerned about a child or young person, please contact:
·     Cumberland Safeguarding Hub on 0333 240 1727
(if it relates to a concern in the Allerdale, Carlisle or Copeland area) or,
·     Westmorland and Furness Safeguarding Hub on 0300 373 2724
(if it relates to a concern in the Barrow, Eden or South Lakeland area).

If you believe that a child or adult is in immediate danger or requires medical attention, call the emergency services on 999.

**Helplines:**
·     NSPCC Child Protection Helpline: 0808 800 5000 (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are worried about a child and need advice or guidance on what to do.
·     Child-line: 0800 1111 (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are a child or young person and are worried about anything.
·     National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247 (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are experiencing domestic abuse or need help to report.
·     Samaritans Helpline: 116 123 (open 24 hours). Phone if you feel you are struggling to cope and need someone to talk to.
·     Action on Elder Abuse Helpline: 0808 808 8141 (free phone Monday to Friday 9-5pm)
·     Victim Support Cumbria: 0300 303 0157.  Emotional and practical advice to help people affected by crime in Cumbria.
·     LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0800 999 5428
·     Men’s Advice Line: 0808 801 0327
·     Age UK Advice Line: 0800 678 1602