

## ST MARY'S CHURCH, THAKEHAM

### CODE OF BEHAVIOUR FOR THOSE WORKING WITH CHILDREN

#### INTRODUCTION

We consider that children are a gift from God, precious to him, to their parents and family members and to us. We take our responsibilities for providing a safe, loving environment for children in our care – in church service, at Sunday school, Messy church and Youth Group – very seriously.

#### WE EXPECT:

- Leaders of children's groups to be DBS checked
- All those working with children
  - To have undertaken C1 diocesan safeguarding training
  - To treat children, whatever their age, with respect
  - To ensure that we know the names of the children, particularly if they have a preferred name which is different from their Christian name
  - To know which children have allergies or medical conditions
  - To have names, addresses and telephone numbers of parents and/or carers readily available
  - To ensure that children are registered for the session
  - To inform the leader if a child who was expected fails to arrive
  - At the end of the session, return children to a known family member
  - To know how to deal with disclosure and know to whom this is to be reported
  - To ensure that the space where the children are is safe and free from hazards
  - To know where first aid boxes are located
  - To have at least a basic knowledge of first aid
  - To display emergency evacuation procedures and practice them at least termly

As a result of following this code of practice, we will ensure that the children enjoy a special time, during which they can, through lively, age-appropriate activities develop a knowledge of and relationship with their heavenly father.