

# **DOMESTIC ABUSE POLICY**

## **Domestic Abuse policy dated: October 2022**

**Name:** Parish of Chandler's Ford (hereafter, The Church)

### **Church Address:**

St. Boniface Church, Hursley Road, Chandler's Ford, Hampshire, SO53 2FT  
and

St. Martin in the Wood Church, Queens Road, Chandler's Ford, Hampshire, SO53 5AG

### **Contact details:**

**Vicar:** In Vacancy

**Church Wardens:** Lynne Mursell and Una Barter

**Associate Priest:** Reverend Hayley Richens

**Curate:** Reverend Penny Thatcher

**Safeguarding Officer:** Anne Addiss

### **Office address:**

The Parish Office  
St Boniface Church  
Hursley Road  
Chandler's Ford  
Hampshire  
SO53 2FT

**Phone:** 023 8026 5977

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**Policy Review Date:** May 2023



THE PARISH OF  
CHANDLER'S FORD

- 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.
- We undertake to make those involved in teaching and pastoral care aware of the practical, 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 purely on our own.
- We will undertake to include discussion of domestic violence and abuse, relationships, communication and conflict resolution in marriage preparation.
- This church 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 how to respond.
- All leaders will be responsible for considering how they use their power and the messages this may convey.
- This church 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.