**Diocese in Europe**

**Chaplaincy Safeguarding Policy 2019**

**for the Chaplaincy of St. Alban’s, Strasbourg, France**

*The protection from harm of children and adults who may be vulnerable is of paramount importance to us. As a chaplaincy within the Diocese of Europe, we comply fully with the requirements of the Diocese’s Safeguarding Policy.*

***We will not tolerate the abuse of children or adults in any form.***

Specifically, within our Chaplaincy we are committed to:

* The care, nurture, and respectful pastoral ministry of all children, young persons and adults
* The safeguarding and protection of all children, young persons and adults who may be vulnerable
* The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is a culture of ‘informed vigilance’ as to the dangers of abuse.
* The careful selection and training of all those with any safeguarding responsibility within the Church, including the use of available criminal records disclosures and relevant vetting and barring schemes.
* Preventing abuse or the likelihood of abuse by encouraging and adopting a pro-active stance to safeguarding; responding to the slightest concern whether by rumour, speculation or from an anonymous source – every safeguarding concern will be taken seriously.
* Ensuring that any concern about safeguarding **must** be passed onto someone in the Diocesan Safeguarding Team as there are no legal barriers to sharing such concerns.
* Responding without delay to every complaint made which suggests that a child, young person or adult may have been harmed - co-operating with the local police, relevant local agencies and any other relevant body (e.g. other faith groups) in any investigation.
* Seeking to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
* Seeking to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
* Seeking to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

**Adopted/Reaffirmed by Chaplaincy Council Date: 18 June 2019**

**Our Chaplaincy Safeguarding Officer is: Beth Zehr**