



Diocese of Bristol: Parish of Christ Church Downend

Online and Social Media Code of Conduct

Thank you for volunteering to serve at Christ Church. All church members, whether acting officially as representatives of the church, or posting as individuals, should follow the code of conduct for safe and responsible online behaviour when interacting online.

Church volunteers:

- a) Must not share anyone's contact details without first obtaining their permission.
- b) Should not contact anyone under 16 directly online but instead go through their parent/ guardian. 16-18 yr olds can be contacted by email only, with a parent copied in. Church Members should not "friend" or "follow" or interact on social media sites with any under 18's who are part of the church family. Church members can interact on WhatsApp with a 16-18 yr old in a church team group IF permission is given by the parent, and all interaction must be in the group, not through private messages.
- c) Should not take photographs of children or young people in the course of volunteering. Only staff team or leaders may do this, and only store them on digital platforms used by the church. This is In line with the Safeguarding Policy of Christ Church Downend [Promoting a Safer Church](#).
- d) Should report any concerns about other volunteers, leaders or staff regarding online behaviour or other safeguarding concerns to the Parish Safeguarding Officer at safeguarding@christchurchdownend.com

e) Should use online accounts in a safe, truthful and respectful manner to protect themselves, people within and outside the church community and the reputation of Christ Church Downend and its members. We are signed up to the Church of England's Digital Charter and encourage individuals to do the same:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/digital-charter>

f) Should not do anything that could be considered discriminatory, bullying or harassment of, any individual, for example by:

- o making offensive or derogatory comments relating to sex, gender reassignment, race (including nationality), disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy or age.
- o using social media to bully another individual (such as an employee or representative of Christ Church Downend).
- o posting images that are discriminatory or offensive or links to such content.

Declaration:

I agree to abide by the terms of this policy:

Full Name:

Signed:.....

Date:.....