

*The Parish of Our Lady of Mercy & St Godric & St Bede.
And the Parish of St Joseph.*

The Diocese of Hexham requires us and Newcastle to aspire to the standards set out in this policy and to display it prominently on Church premises.

Please take some time to read it and, if you are a leader of a Parish group, consider how it may apply within your group. The standards are set out in the Welfare Manual which is available in hardcopy on our website

www.stjosephsdurham.co.uk.

**Welfare Policy Statement
Parish of St Godric and St Bede
And Parish of St Joseph**

Our aim is to ensure that all Diocesan properties and the activities conducted within them are safe and without risks, so far as is reasonably practicable.

All reasonable practicable steps shall be taken to comply with Health and Safety legislation, Fire Precautions regulations, and recommended safe working practices, notwithstanding any arguments over their legal relevancy to church activities.

We require that clergy and other staff take reasonable care of the safety of themselves and others and display a positive attitude towards health and safety.

Any unsafe condition, within the boundaries of church property, must be reported immediately in order that remedial action can be taken.

Any accident to a person, within the boundaries of church property, must be reported immediately, so that it can be recorded and fully investigated in order to prevent a recurrence.

We also require that clergy and other staff take all reasonable steps to ensure that people with disabilities are provided with the resources and access necessary to participate in all aspects of the church's life and ministry.

