

## **The Parish of St Andrew the Apostle and St Mark the Evangelist, Surbiton**

### **Health and Safety Policy**

Churches are not exempt from health and safety legislation. Local Authority Environmental Health Officers are specifically charged with enforcing health and safety legislation in churches.

The Health and Safety Executive now advises that it is good practice for volunteers to be provided with the same level of health and safety training and protection as if they were employees. This means that churches should follow exactly the same regulations to ensure the health and safety of volunteers and other persons using the church as if the Churches were employers.

Our policy is to provide and maintain, so far as is reasonably practicable, safe and healthy working conditions, equipment and systems of work for all our employees, casual labour and voluntary helpers, and to provide such information, instruction, training and supervision as needed for this purpose.

We shall also endeavour to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all parishioners, contractors, visitors and others who may visit the churches, churchyard, church gardens and any other buildings owned by the Parish.

Employees, voluntary workers and the congregations will be consulted on a regular basis in order to seek their views on the health, safety and welfare arrangements in place.

Signed:

Priest-in-Charge

Date: