



Health and Safety Policy

Health and Safety Policy

Contents:

1. Our Health and Safety Policy.....	3
2. General statement of Policy.....	4
3. Organisation and Responsibilities.....	5
4. General Arrangements. Arrangements	
• Competent Assistance.....	7
• Risk Assessments.....	7
• Information and Training.....	7
• First Aid.....	7
• Accident Reporting.....	8
• Monitoring.....	8
• Contractors.....	8
• Record Keeping.....	8
5. Specific Arrangements	
• Asbestos.....	9
• Bell Ringing.....	9
• Church Buildings.....	9
• Churchyard.....	9
• Building Works.....	9
• Display Screen Equipment	10
• Electricity.....	10
• Events.....	10
• Fire	10
• Heating Systems.....	10
• Hazardous Substances.....	10
• Manual Handling.....	11
• Preparation of food.....	11
• Slips and Trips.....	11
• Tower Tours.....	11
• Working at Height.....	11
• Work Equipment.....	11
• Working Alone.....	12
• Laleham School.....	12

Health and Safety Policy

Our Health and Safety Policy

Name of Church:

All Saints' Laleham

Address:

Shepperton Road, Laleham, TW18 1SB

As a church we understand that we owe a duty of care to ensure the safety of those who visit or use our church, hall or churchyard.

We also know that, where we are an employer or control premises in certain circumstances, we have to meet the requirements of health and safety law.

In particular, we know that as an employer having five or more employees, we are required to have a written health and safety policy. As such, we have drafted this policy to meet our duty under Section 2(3) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.

We have sought advice from Ecclesiastical Insurance in the preparation of this policy who have provided further information at www.ecclesiastical.com/healthandsafety

Health and Safety Policy

General statement of policy.

Our policy is to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that our activities are carried out safely and do not pose a risk to the health of our employees, volunteers, congregation, visitors, and others who may use the church, churchyard or any other building we are responsible for. This will be in accordance with good practice and relevant statutory provisions where they apply.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) accepts its overall responsibility for this. We will ensure that adequate resources are made available to achieve this objective. Any decisions we make will have due regard for it.

We will appoint a member of the PCC to have specific responsibility for this policy and its implementation. We will keep health and safety matters under review at appropriate intervals. We will monitor the effectiveness of the policy, amending it where we believe it is no longer valid.

It is the duty of each employee and volunteer to exercise personal responsibility for their own safety and that of others. This policy will be brought to their attention. We will try to ensure that everyone involved with the church plays his or her part in its implementation.

Further details about our organisation and arrangements for managing health and safety is set out in this document. A copy of it will be kept in the church and made available to others on request.

Signed*:

A Saville

* on behalf of the Parochial Church Council as agreed at a meeting on:

Date:

26th July 2022

Health and Safety Policy

Organisation and Responsibilities.

1. The member of the PCC with overall responsibility for implementing our policy is:

Ian Hunt

They will ensure that:

- The standards set out in this policy are implemented and maintained
- Where necessary, specialist health and safety assistance is obtained
- Any hazards reported to them are appropriately addressed as soon as possible
- Only competent persons carry out repairs, modifications, inspections and tests
- Any accidents are investigated, recorded and reported if necessary
- Relevant health and safety documents and records are retained
- They keep up to date on health and safety matters relevant to the church
- They set a personal example on matters of health and safety

2. The Churchwardens have day-to-day responsibility for implementing our policy. They are:

Ian Hunt

Alastair Duncan

They will ensure that:

- All employees and volunteers are aware of their health and safety responsibilities
- Adequate precautions are taken as set out in this policy and related risk assessments
- Adequate information and training is provided for those that need it
- Any hazards or complaints are investigated and dealt with as soon as possible
- Where defects cannot be corrected immediately, interim steps are taken to prevent danger
- All accidents are reported in line with the requirements of this policy
- Advice is sought where clarification is necessary on the implementation of this policy
- They set a personal example on matters of health and safety.

Health and Safety Policy

3. All **employees and volunteers** have a responsibility to co-operate in the implementation of this policy and to take reasonable care of themselves and others while on church business or premises.

They will ensure that they:

- Read this policy and understand what is required of them
- Complete their work taking any necessary precautions to protect themselves and others
- Comply with any safety rules, operating instructions and other working procedures
- Report any hazard, defect or damage, so that this might be dealt with
- Warn any new employees or volunteers of known hazards
- Attend any training required to enable them to carry out their duties safely
- Do not undertake any repair or modification unless they are competent to do so
- Report any accident
- Do not misuse anything that has been provided in the interests of health and safety

Health and Safety Policy

This section sets out our general arrangements for managing health and safety and dealing with specific risks. [We have removed any points that do not apply to our activities].

General arrangements

Competent Assistance

Where necessary, we will appoint someone who is competent to assist us in meeting our health and safety obligations. Where an appointment is made, we will record the details here. The Health & Safety Executive defines competent person as “someone with the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to manage Health & Safety.”

Our person appointed to assist us is:

Robert Shaw.

Quinquennial Inspecting Architect

Risk Assessments

We will complete risk assessments to identify what we need to do to comply with health and safety law. We will record our findings, implementing any necessary precautions. We will review as necessary and revise these where we suspect that they are no longer valid.

Information and Training

We will provide any necessary information and training for our employees and volunteers in a timely manner. We will keep a record of what is provided. We will also give relevant information to contractors and self-employed people who may need this to complete their work safely.

First Aid

We will provide adequate first aid facilities including – as a minimum – a suitably stocked first aid box and a person who will take charge of the first aid arrangements. We will also provide relevant information for employees and volunteers.

Our first aid boxes are located in:

Church x 2, Church Office, Youth Centre

Laleham School

Our person in charge of first aid arrangements is:

Mary Hunt

Health and Safety Policy

Accident Reporting

We will keep our accident books and record details therein. We will report to the enforcing authority and keep records of certain accidents to employees, volunteers and members of the public in accordance with the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations.

Our accident books are kept:

Inside the First Aid boxes in the Church, Church Office, Youth Centre and Laleham School

Monitoring

We will make periodic checks to ensure that our precautions remain effective and adequate. We will also ensure that any lifting equipment, work equipment, electrical equipment, and utilities in the church's premises are inspected as necessary to ensure they remain safe. We will keep records of the checks we make.

Contractors

If we employ external contractors, we will ask for copies of their own health and safety policy and their Public and Employers Liability Insurance documentation.

Record Keeping

Our Health and Safety Risk Assessments , records and other documents are kept in:

The locked filing cabinet in the Church Office

Specific Arrangements

Asbestos

We will take steps to identify the presence of asbestos in our buildings and, if so, assess any risk from it. We will then implement any plan to manage that risk. We will also provide relevant information to others who might need it (for example, building contractors). We will keep records of the checks, assessments and plans we have made.

An annual asbestos survey of the Church Office is organised by Spelthorne Borough Council, the Landlord of that building.

Bell Ringing

We will ensure that adequate precautions are in place to protect bell ringers and others who may enter the tower for bell ringing. This will include any emergency evacuation procedure, a safe means of heating, the provision of fire extinguishers, the provision of emergency lighting and the notification of safety procedures in the event of there being any visiting bell ringers.

Church Buildings

We will ensure that the fabric of our buildings is regularly inspected to make sure it is safe. Defects will be repaired as soon as is practicable bearing in mind that a Faculty might be required. Where necessary, temporary measures will be taken to reduce any danger until permanent repairs can be made. This will include glazing.

Churchyard

We will ensure that boundary walls and gates are kept in good repair. We will have trees inspected by a competent person and have any necessary work carried out to make them safe. Headstones, tombs and monuments will be visually monitored for safety risks.

Building Works

Where maintenance, refurbishment and restoration work is planned for our church, we will identify what we need to do to ensure the safety of all those concerned before work starts. We will also determine if we have any responsibilities under the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations and comply with these if necessary.

Display Screen Equipment

Where our employees and volunteers regularly use computers daily, for continuous periods of an hour or more, we will analyse workstations to identify precautions, implementing these as necessary. We will also provide information, training, eye/eyesight tests (on request) and special spectacles if needed.

Electricity

We will ensure that any electrical system, fixed machine and portable appliance is maintained so as to prevent danger. Any defective equipment will not be used until it is repaired or replaced. We will keep records of the checks made where appropriate.

Events

Where we intend to hold large or unusual concerts, services and fundraising events, we will identify any additional precautions that are necessary and implement them.

Fire

We will complete a specific risk assessment to identify what steps are necessary to prevent or detect fire, and take in the event of a fire. We will record our findings, implementing any necessary precautions. We will review these annually and revise them where we suspect that they are no longer valid. A copy of "Action Plan in an Emergency" is on the noticeboard in the Church, Church Office and Youth Centre.

Heating Systems

We will ensure that any gas heating system is suitably maintained and checked annually by a competent person. Any defects found will be corrected immediately and we will keep records of the checks made.

Hazardous Substances

We only use domestic cleaning or horticultural products. We will ensure that these are stored, used and disposed of in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions taking any necessary precautions that are specified. Petrol used by the gardener for his lawn mower is not stored on site.

Manual Handling

We will avoid the need for lifting or carrying heavy objects as far as is possible. Where this is not practical, we will make use of carrying aids (such as trolleys) or other precautions including team lifting.

Preparation of Food

We will ensure that on those occasions when we prepare food, we use a clean and disinfected work surface, utensils and equipment. We will store food in such a way as to avoid contamination, provide hand washing facilities, and make suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste.

Slips and Trips

We will implement suitable precautions to prevent slips or trips, taking account of any particular difficulty the frail, elderly or disabled may have in negotiating access. We will make periodic checks to ensure that floors, coverings, steps and pathways remain in good condition, free from obstruction and that any precautions (such as handrails or lighting) remain adequate. We will correct any defects identified, keeping records of the checks we make. We will have arrangements in place to manage pathways in winter.

Tower Tours

Where we plan to run tower tours, we will identify any specific precautions that are necessary. This will take account of the size of the tower, the control of movement within the tower, the number of stewards available, and the ease with which persons can safely evacuate the tower in case of emergency. We will then implement these.

Working at Height

Where possible we will try and avoid the need to work at height. Where this is not practicable, we will ensure that any work is properly planned to identify suitable precautions. We will make sure that these are implemented, including the provision of any training and checks to ensure the safety of any equipment used.

Work Equipment

Any work equipment (including any hand tools) we provide will be suitable, in good condition and properly maintained. Where necessary, some equipment (such as ladders) will be regularly checked to make sure it is safe. We will keep records of any checks we make.

Working Alone

We will identify circumstances where our employees and volunteers work alone and implement suitable precautions to ensure their safety.

Laleham School

The vicar, churchwardens and members of the PCC have no input or control of the Health and Safety Policy and its requirements, any risk assessments and fire risk assessments and precautions issued by Laleham School.

As such, it is their responsibility to ensure that any requirements and procedures are made known to and followed by all.