

Diocese of St Albans Benefice Policy for Online Material 2020

Benefice of Silsoe, Flitton and Pulloxhill in the Church of England Diocese of St Albans

The following Policy was agreed in the Spring of 2020 by the Parochial Church Council of each of our Churches.

- **To be safe.** The safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults must be maintained.
- **To be respectful.** Not post or share content that is sexually explicit, inflammatory, hateful, abusive, threatening or otherwise disrespectful.
- **To be kind.** To treat others how we would wish to be treated and assume the best in people. If we have a criticism or critique to make, to consider not just *whether* we would say it in person, but the tone we would use.
- **To be honest.** Not to mislead people about who we are.
- **To take responsibility.** We are accountable for the things we do, say and write. Text and images shared can be public and permanent, even with privacy settings in place. If we're not sure, we won't post it.
- **To be a good ambassador.** To acknowledge that personal and professional life can easily become blurred online so to think before we post.
- **To disagree well.** Some conversations can be places of robust disagreement and it's important we apply our values in the way we express them.
- **To credit others.** To acknowledge the work of others. To respect copyright and always credit where it is due. To be careful not to release sensitive or confidential information and always to question the source of any content we are considering amplifying.
- **To follow the rules.** To abide by the terms and conditions of the various social media platforms themselves. If we see a comment that we believe breaks their policies, we will report it to the respective company.