

PCC POLICY

‘INCLUSIVE CHURCH’

Reviewed - July 2017

Next Review Due – July 2021

Inclusive Church is a group of Christians uniting together around a common statement of belief:

"We believe in inclusive Church - church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."

St Nicolas' PCC agreed that this reflects our ethos, and that we have consistently wanted to maintain an inclusive stance, so including fully all forms of diversity in our church life.

Inclusive Church is consistent with our Diocesan Vision *Transforming Church, Transforming Lives* in believing that 'God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – is in the business of transforming individuals and communities' and in wanting to be 'a healthy vibrant church in which lives are transformed and communities are enriched'

The PCC agree to register our support with *Inclusive Church*.

- making copies of the regular newsletter available to the congregation
- having a link to *Inclusive Church* on your church website with logo
- considering *Inclusive Church* as part of our charitable giving
- referring to *Inclusive Church* and the issues that it is involved with in worship (sermons, prayers etc.)
- consider sharing in *Inclusive Church* Sunday each year
- displaying the *Inclusive Church* parish poster
- encouraging clergy and lay leaders to read the *Inclusive Church* book series (considering buying a set for the church library)
- using the *Inclusive Church* resources, i.e. **Radical Welcome, Living Christianity** and the small group study resources
- encouraging other churches in our local area, deanery & diocese to also register as an *Inclusive Church*.