



DIGNITY CHARTER

**“Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgave you.”**

Ephesians 4. 32

Everyone has a right to be treated with dignity and respect and this means that everyone also has a duty and responsibility to treat others with the same dignity and respect. Treating people in a manner which is discourteous and undignified in any way or which causes harm undermines individual dignity as well as the life and ministry of the whole church. Poor relationships will make people feel undervalued and unhappy. They can cause distress, affect physical and mental wellbeing, and have adverse effects on social relationships.

The right to be treated with dignity and respect extends to all aspects of our church life including those which are outside of the typical workplace, for example, working with the community, church services, business meetings and work-related social events or through the use of social media.

This Dignity Charter applies to both groups and individuals by providing a framework of expectation for managing how we behave towards one another. It sets out standards which everyone should meet. It is intended to create a supportive environment where mistakes are recognised, acknowledged and which can result in positive learning and progressive change in behaviour. The Charter sets out how respect and the valuing of individuals are core principles which positively increase diversity and the subsequent flourishing of our common life.

