

Parish Safeguarding Policy

The Parish of Penn Street with Holmer Green SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) on 16th April 2024

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safe environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Endeavour to create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Display the Parish safeguarding policy on our Church website.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults while maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Inform the Diocesan Safeguarding Team if we use an alternative DBS Umbrella Body to APCS and if we receive any DBS Disclosures that are not clear.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this Church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this Church.

This church appoints Jean Batchelor as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Incumbent: Vacancy

Churchwardens: Robert Duerdoth
Sandy Leighton-Jones

Date 16th April 2024

Please send a copy of your Safeguarding Policy to: safeguarding@oxford.anglican.org or Diocese of Oxford Safeguarding Team, Church House, Langford Locks, Kidlington, Oxford, OX5 1GF
Diocese of Oxford Safeguarding Team – March 2019