

The Parish of Christ Church Guildford Safeguarding Policy: 2024-2025

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on **15th May 2024**

This policy statement actively underpins all safeguarding work within the church.

In accordance with the National Church Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within our church community. We are committed to

1. adopting and implementing the House of Bishops' safeguarding policy and practice guidance
2. adopting the Church of England's 'Promoting a Safer Church' policy statement and ensure all church officers have access to it
3. supporting diocesan safeguarding protocols
4. ensuring that any person who works with our children's, youth and/or vulnerable groups are aware of and abide by good safeguarding practice
5. reviewing the policy regularly to ensure best practice

Promoting a Safer Church sets out the Church of England's commitment to making the church a safer place for all.

The Policies and Practice Guidance apply to all Church bodies and officers. All clergy, bishops, archdeacons, licensed readers and lay workers, church wardens and PCCs must have "due regard" to safeguarding guidance issued by the House of Bishops.

The Policy Statement, Policies, Practice Guidance and Protocols are available to view on the diocesan website at www.cofeguildford.org.uk/safeguarding together with the Parish Handbook

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have two named Parish Safeguarding Officers (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 vulnerable 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 and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.

- Take steps to protect children and vulnerable adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Following advice from the DSA support and manage the safe involvement of any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and vulnerable adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that procedures and risk assessments are in place for all activities and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.
- Maintain a secure place to keep information of a confidential nature for church records.
- Closely monitor use of church social media which includes young people and vulnerable adults.
- All relevant volunteers and members of the PCC will be DBS checked

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

Our Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO) are

1. **Adam Warner**

E-mail childsaf@christchurchguildford.com

Phone Number **07984 543201**

2. **Rachel Nicolaou**

Email adultsaf@christchurchguildford.com

Phone Number **07521 748631**

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead on the PCC is

Name **Elisabeth Willis**

Email pccsaf@christchurchguildford.com

Signed **Nick Williams** (Incumbent)

Date **15th May 2024**

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor

Jackie Broadfoot

E-mail safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk

Phone Number **01483 790379**