



St. Mary's Church, Thakeham

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 21st May 2021.

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

- Promoting a safer 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 concern or allegation of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- 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 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 vulnerable adults undertaken in the name of the Parish
- Display in the 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 that disclose abuse
- Take steps to protect children and vulnerable adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishop's guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately
- Offer support to victims/ survivors of abuse regardless of the types of abuse, when or where it occurred
- Care for and monitor any member of the Church community who may pose a threat to children and vulnerable adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties
- Ensure that the Health and Safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually
- 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 has appointed Pippa Harder as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.
She can be contacted at stmarysthakehamsafeguarding@gmail.com

