



Safeguarding Statement* and Policy: Promoting a Safer Church

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Statement adopted by

The House of Bishops in 2017** **our church is committed to:**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Promoting a safer environment and culture.2. Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.3. Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.5. Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.6. Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others. |
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The Parish will:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Create a safe and caring place for all.2. Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.3. 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.4. Ensure that any ex-offenders with offences against children or vulnerable adults known to be in the church community are notified to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser and contribute to managing Safeguarding Agreements***5. Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.6. Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.8. Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the DSA and statutory agencies immediately****.9. Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.10. Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.11. Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.12. Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually. |
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Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

Any of the following people should be contacted if you have a safeguarding concern:

Parish Safeguarding Officers:	Susan Rivett	07908 644600	susanrivett55@gmail.com
	Katharine Harper	07881 602024	katharineharper23@gmail.com
District Safeguarding Advisor:	Jez Hirst	07867 350886	safeguarding@stalbands.anglican.org
Team Vicar:	Vacant		
Churchwardens:	Harry Graham-Brown	07918 071542	harry.gb63@gmail.com
	Sylvia Low	07742 610932	sylviaylow@gmail.com

This policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council meeting in March 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Churchwarden: Harry Graham-Brown  Date: 19/Mar/22

Churchwarden: Sylvia Low  Date: 19.3.22

Team Vicar: Vacant Date:

Adapted from Parish Safeguarding Handbook, Church of England 01.08.18 v1

- * From <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/Key-Roles-and-Responsibilities-of-Church-Office-Holders-and-Bodies-Practice-Guidance-2017.pdf>
- ** From the House of Bishops 2017 document
<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-12/PromotingSaferChurchWeb.pdf>
- *** from 'Key Roles and Responsibilities of Church Office Holders and Bodies Practice Guidance: House of Bishops Published October 2017'
- **** see p17 of the House of Bishops document 'Practice Guidance: Responding to Safeguarding Concerns or Allegations that relate to Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults' published Nov 2018.
<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2018-11/Responding%20to%20Safeguarding%20Concerns%20or%20Allegations%20that%20relate%20to%20Children%2C%20Young%20People%20and%20Vulnerable%20Adults.pdf>