

## Benedict's Bennetts End, Benefice of Langelei

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:**

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

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create a safe and caring place for all.</li> <li>2. Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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***</li> <li>5. Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.</li> <li>6. Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.</li> <li>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****.</li> <li>9. Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>11. Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.</li> <li>12. Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.</li> </ol>
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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:

<b>Parish Safeguarding Officers:</b>	Katharine Harper	07881 602024	katharineharper23@gmail.com
<b>Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor:</b>	Jez Hirst	07867 350886	safeguarding@stalbans.anglican.org
<b>Team Vicar:</b>	Alice Jolley	01442 615246	mthr.alicejolley@outlook.com
<b>Churchwardens:</b>			

This policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

**Churchwarden:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Churchwarden:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Vicar:** Alice Jolley **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>