

All Saints' Church, New Longton
Annual Safeguarding Report 2022

Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of everyone. It is central to our mission and ministry and is integral in the Diocesan Vision which asks us to consider how to make our church communities healthier.

All Saints' Church has in place arrangements which include:

- Procedures to identify, respond to and report concerns
- Codes of safer practice
- Safer recruitment procedures

Safeguarding roles

The following people have Safeguarding roles at All Saints' Church:

- Parish Safeguarding Officer for Children and Young People - Mrs Ann Aspden
- Parish Safeguarding Officer for Vulnerable Adults - Mrs Diana Gibbons
- Lead Recruiter for DBS - Mrs Ann Aspden
- Recruiter - Mrs Yvonne Hazelwood

We take advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team:

Cath Smith - Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

Ann Cooney - Diocesan Safeguarding Trainer and Volunteer Coordinator

Sophie Booth - Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

Claudia Aspey – Safeguarding Administrator

Safeguarding Policy

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 concerns or allegations 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 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 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.
- 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.
- Ensure that 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.

Reported safeguarding concerns

In 2022, there were 2 reported safeguarding concerns.

Display

- Safeguarding arrangements are clearly visible on the front page of the parish website.
- There is a signed formal statement of adoption of the House of Bishops 'Promoting a Safer Church; safeguarding policy statement'.
- Information is displayed in the church foyer about how to contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, (DSA), PSOs and how to get help outside the church.
- A hard copy of the Parish Safeguarding Handbook is kept in the church office.

Parish Safeguarding Dashboard

The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard Tool is an online tool, that we use to keep track of safeguarding governance in our parish via mobile phone, tablet or computer. Over 5,000 parishes across 31 dioceses use the tool. It is an extremely useful and demonstrates good safeguarding governance. The PSO continues to update our Parish Dashboard on a regular basis.

DBS

All volunteers have DBS Certificates and as new members join the PCC or new volunteers offer their services, they are expected to complete the online DBS. Volunteers are informed that they cannot take up their role until the DBS has been completed.

Safeguarding Training.

All volunteers, PCC members and those with a Safeguarding Leadership role are required to complete the Church of England online Safeguarding training. This is an ongoing process that is closely monitored by the PSO

Ann Aspden

May 2023