



Parish Safeguarding Policy – PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

Parish of Newport Pagnell

The following policy was agreed at the PCC meeting held on 15 January 2024.

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:

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 within the Church for children, young people and adults, to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse. Recruitment will include the use of the Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records checks.

4. Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.

5. Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following the House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and the statutory agencies immediately. Any adult to whom a disclosure or complaint is made must inform the individual that their concern will be listened to but that it cannot be treated as confidential and will be passed to the appropriate person¹.

6. Take steps to support children and adults when any safeguarding concern arises including the support of the Child Advocate (Jennifer Mazzone) and Parish Safeguarding Officer (Hazel Reynolds) as well as that of the Rector (Nick Evans).

7. Offer support to anyone who has suffered abuse, regardless of when or where it occurred, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care, following the guidelines of referral set out in the documents "Do you need to talk?" and "What are authorised listeners?".

¹ The Appropriate Person will be a member of the Church Safeguarding Team who may then pass the information to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor for our area or the LADO (Local Area Designated Officer). Records will be kept.

8. Seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
9. Care for, support and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children, young people or vulnerable adults in line with diocesan guidelines, and within an agreed framework involving members of the safeguarding team within the Parish, whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
10. Ensure that appropriate insurance is held for all activities involving children and vulnerable adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
11. Display in church premises and on the parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
12. Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually. This will be undertaken by appropriate persons as directed by the Rector and Wardens.
13. Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.
14. In line with Diocesan guidance, adopted from August 29 2017, we will be using Access Personal Checking Services Ltd, as the Registered Body to process applications for Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records checks. The Parish Recruiter and Verifier is Malcolm Godwin, as approved by the PCC.
15. We will advise the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser if we receive a Disclosure which is not clear.
16. We acknowledge and support the Parish Visiting Policy – Framework of Mission which was adopted at the PCC meeting, 23 August 2021.
17. We acknowledge and support the Lone Worker Policy which sets out how we seek to ensure that Lone Workers are aware of their vulnerability, and the guidance we give to help keep them safe.
18. With effect from January 28 2019 the Parish has joined the Welcome Directory which is used by the prison chaplaincy to help ex-offenders find faith communities where their spiritual growth can be supported. The Rector and Safeguarding Officer will work closely with MAPPA to ensure appropriate risk-assessments and management plans are in place should particular ex-offenders be considered to pose a risk.

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

Our **Safeguarding Officer** is:

Hazel Reynolds

8 Osterley Close, Newport Pagnell, Bucks, MK16 0EZ

Telephone: 01908 614124, 07518 412389.

Email: hazel_reynolds@hotmail.co.uk

Our **Child Advocate** is:

Mrs Jennifer Mazzone
120 Wolverton Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks, MK16 8JQ
Telephone: 01908 613088, 07517439790.
Email: jennifermazzone@hotmail.com

Signed

Rector: Rev Nick Evans

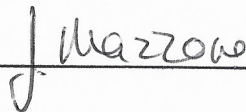


Churchwardens:

Jenny Frost



Jennifer Mazzone



Date 15/1/2024

Head of Safeguarding: Louise Whitehead

louise.whitehead@oxford.anglican.org

Telephone: 07391 868478

Area Safeguarding Adviser (Buckinghamshire): Tsungai Muchegwa

tsungai.muchegwa@oxford.anglican.org

Telephone: 07435 550685

Safeguarding Training and Policy Advisor: Rebecca Norris-Bulpitt

Telephone: 018655870041

Safeguarding Training & DBS administrator: Linda Carpenter

linda.carpenter@oxford.anglican.org

Telephone: 01865 208267

Out of Hours Safeguarding Helpline - call our partners Thirtyone:eight on 0303 003 1111 for confidential advice, guidance and support.

A copy of your Safeguarding Policy should be sent to: safeguarding@oxford.anglican.org or Diocese of Oxford Safeguarding Team, Church House Oxford, Langford Locks, Kidlington, Oxford, OX5 1GF