

The Parish of St. John's Guernsey

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed by the Vicar and Churchwardens, and endorsed by the Church Advisory Committee on 15th May 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 adults at risk of harm 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 who may pose a present risk to others.

The church will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the churchwardens to implement policy and procedures.
- Ensure that all those who are authorised to work with vulnerable groups are appointed according to diocesan safer recruitment guidelines. We will exercise proper care in selection, appointment, training and support (including the use of the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)) and ensure all those who have responsibility for children, young people and adults 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 on behalf of the church or on church premises.
- Display in church premises, and on the church 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.
- Challenge any abuse of power by anyone in authority.
- Respond quickly when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises to take appropriate steps to protect children and adults, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer appropriate and timely support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.

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- 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.
- Recognise that safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole church; that everyone has a role to play in creating and maintaining an environment of safety and support.
- 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 appoints **Sarah Williams** as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.



The Reverend Solveig Sonet
Vicar



Annette Stewart
Churchwarden



Paul Chambers
Churchwarden

15th May 2024