

The Diocese of Oxford

The See of Oswestry

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of the Most Holy Trinity, Reading

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

At the Parochial Church Council meeting held on 9th July 2023 the Council adopted the Church of England **Promoting a Safer Church Policy Statement**, the House of Bishops' **Practice Guidance** and supporting **Diocesan Safeguarding Protocols**. (See Note 1.)

As a Parochial Church Council, we are committed to the support, nurture and protection of all in our Church Community.

We will:

1. Create a safe and caring place for all.
2. Have a named Safeguarding Officer to work with the Council to implement policy and procedures.
3. Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and vulnerable adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
4. Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
5. Display in the Church and on the church website the details of contacts where safeguarding concerns or support needs occur.
6. Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
7. 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 Adviser and statutory agencies immediately.
8. Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, or when or where it occurred.
9. Follow advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, and support and manage the safe involvement of any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and/or adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
10. Ensure that procedures and risk assessments are in place for all activities, and that these are reviewed annually.
11. 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.

Note 1: Appropriate documentation and practice can be found under 'Safeguarding' on the Church of England website www.churchofengland.org and on the Diocesan website www.oxford.anglican.org

Adopted by the Church Council at its meeting on 9th July 2023

Signed *Ron Cutting*.....(Chairman of the Council)

Policy reviewed annually:

Signed by the Chairman:

2024

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2025

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2026

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