

# The Parish of St Helen, Berrick Salome, Diocese of Oxford

## Safeguarding Policy

*This policy was agreed following the PCC meeting held on 10th November 2020*

1. We are committed to:
  - The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children and all adults.
  - The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
  - The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse.
2. We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with safer recruitment principles, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records checks.
3. We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, co-operating with the police and local authority in any investigation, and we will have a clear reporting procedure in place.
4. We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with him or her an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
5. We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
6. We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
7. In all these principles we will follow statute, guidance and recognised good practice.
8. We will use the Registered Body recommended by the Diocese to process applications for Disclosure and Barring Service criminal record checks.
9. We will advise the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser if we receive a Disclosure which is 'blemished' or 'positive'.
10. We will review this policy annually, check that our procedures are up to date, and supply a copy of the updated policy to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.

Our Safeguarding Officer is:

Name: Faye O'Hara  
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Incumbent/Parish Priest: Father Michael J Lakey .....

Churchwarden: Dr Marian Shaw .....

PCC Vice Chair: Mr Roger B Derbyshire .....

Date: 11 November 2020

For further information please contact Faye O'Hara (as above) or the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Church House, Langford Locks, Kidlington, Oxford, OX5 1GF.