

THE PARISH OF THE LOWER TEME VALLEY

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 1st March 2021

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.
- *1) Where the Parish is involved with Online Activities which have a public circulation, (eg. Live Streaming, YouTube videos, Social Media, such as Facebook), the person(s) responsible shall ensure that all material is editorially appropriate for viewing by children and/or vulnerable adults.*
- 2) Church officers responsible for online activities should always be aware that such material may be viewed by persons under 18 without adult supervision.*
- 3) Where such media uses pictures of children and/or vulnerable adults, appropriate permissions should be obtained prior to publication.*
- 4) Measures will be put in place to ensure such material is protected from risks involved with Cyber Security.”*

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5) *Ensure invites to Zoom services/meetings are always sent out from a well known church person.
Invitations should be sent bcc to avoid disclosing personal email addresses.
All Zoom meetings/services need to be set up so as to allow attendees to wait in the waiting room until let in
after being recognised.*

- 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 Parish.

The PCC appoints Douglas Whittaker as the Local Parish Safeguarding Representative

Incumbent: Revd Canon David Sherwin

Churchwardens: Robert Pearce, Peter Walker.

Date: 1st March 2021