

The Parish of St Stephen: Lindley, Huddersfield

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 8 July 2025

Having adopted the National Safeguarding Standards Resources * and in accordance with the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Guidance and Safeguarding Code of Practice** 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:

- Ensure 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 safeguarding concerns.
- 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 safeguarding issues.
- 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.
- 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 guidelines.

All complaints or concerns must, in the first instance, be referred to the Parish Safeguarding Officer. If the Parish Safeguarding Officer is not available then the Church Wardens or Vicar may receive the reference but they must then refer to the Parish or a Diocesan Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible.

This church appointed The Revd Richard (Dick) Swindell as the Parish Safeguarding Officer on 7 March 2024.

Priest-in-Charge Revd. A L Palmer

Churchwarden Mrs R. Black

Date: 12/08/2025

* [National Safeguarding Standards Resources | The Church of England](#)
** [Safeguarding e-manual | The Church of England](#)