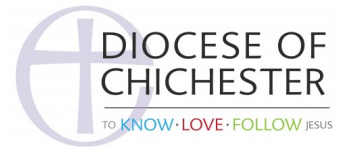


SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin,
Petworth



This policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on: 13th May 2026

Our Commitments

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, the Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Petworth is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
 - Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility for children, young people and vulnerable adults
 - Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
 - Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and all others affected
 - Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations
 - Responding appropriately to those who may pose a present risk to others
- We recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We are committed to implementing all safeguarding policies and practice guidance issued by the House of Bishops.

The Parish Will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all
- Appoint a Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with safeguarding responsibilities
- Use the Disclosure and Barring Service appropriately
- Ensure appropriate insurance cover for all activities
- Display safeguarding contact details clearly in church and online
- Listen to and take seriously all who disclose abuse
- Notify the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately when concerns arise
- Co-operate fully with statutory agencies
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse
- Respond appropriately to those who have committed sexual offences who wish to join our fellowship
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk
- Ensure health and safety policies and risk assessments are in place and reviewed annually
- Review this policy, procedures and practice at least annually

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Name: **Eileen Lintill**

Address: **2 Downview Rd, Petworth, GU28 0EU**

Telephone: **01798 342948** Email: **elintill@gmail.com**

Signatures (on behalf of the PCC)

Incumbent: _____

Churchwarden: _____

Churchwarden: _____

Date: 13th May 2026



A copy of this statement will be displayed in the church and sent to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

SAFEGUARDING — WHO TO CONTACT

St Mary the Virgin, Petworth



Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

Eileen Lintill

☎ 01798 342948

elintill@gmail.com



Rector

Canon Mark Gilbert SSC

☎ 01798 345278 or frmarkssc@msn.com

Chichester Diocese Safeguarding Team

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA)

☎ 01273 425792. safeguarding@chichester.anglican.org

Out-of-Hours Helpline

☎ 0303 003 1111 (Ask for the Chichester Diocese duty safeguarding adviser)

If someone is in immediate danger

☎ 999 — Police

☎ 101 — Non-emergency police

Local Authority Contacts (West Sussex)

West Sussex Children's Services
— 01403 229900

West Sussex Adult Social Care —
01243 642121

National Support Services

NSPCC Helpline — 0808 800 5000

Childline — 0800 1111

Samaritans — 116 123

National Domestic Abuse Helpline
— 0808 2000 247