



Holy Trinity Sunningdale

Church and Community

Sharing God's Love

To live by faith, to be known by love, to be a light of hope



APCM annual Safeguarding report April 2024 (covering Jan 23 to Jan 24)

(prepared by Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Holy Trinity Sunningdale PCC is 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
- Providing training and support to all of our volunteers and employees, to ensure they feel confident and valued in their role
- Complying with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy and Practice guidance in relation to Safeguarding
- Following all Safer Recruitment processes in relation to recruiting volunteers

We continue to be guided by the Safeguarding Team at the Diocese of Oxford, who in turn work by the principles of the House of Bishops 'Promoting a Safer Church'.

Work is constantly ongoing to ensure our safeguarding practices and procedures are transparent and accessible, our volunteers are trained to the level required of their role and that Safeguarding contact details and relevant safeguarding information are readily available.

Current Parish Safeguarding Officer: Rebecca Meadows

Summary as of April 2024 (for calendar year 2023)

- We have provided Safeguarding training for many of our volunteers on the Pastoral team, including Foundation training, Domestic Abuse Awareness and Leadership training. We are fortunate to have two 'in house' trainers, Dolapo Ogunbawo and Stephanie Hynard, who facilitated much of this training for us so that it could happen face to face rather than online.
- We continue to follow Safer Recruitment guidelines when taking on new volunteers. The majority of our current volunteers and Church Officers have up to date DBS checks and Safeguarding training, and those that don't are currently going through the process.
- We continue to use the Parish Dashboard online system, which has been useful in helping us keep on track with our safeguarding requirements. We have achieved level 3 completion status on this platform which is the highest level available and is an indication that we are meeting all of our Safeguarding responsibilities.
- Our Parish Safeguarding Policies are up to date and are available to view in the Church office on request and are also available on the Church website. Most recently we have added a Social Media Policy.
- In November 2023 we held our second 'Safeguarding Sunday' event, with an emphasis on the importance of Safeguarding in our Church community, and the

Parish Safeguarding Officer was invited to talk about the role in more depth and what people should do if they have any safeguarding concerns.

- We reviewed and updated all of our current Risk Assessments for all events, communion services, gatherings etc held in the name of Church.
- **No safeguarding incidents were reported in 2023.**