

# TWYFORD AREA LOCAL ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP



St Mary's Twyford    Twyford United Reformed Church    St James' Ruscombe

Ruscombe and Twyford Church Office, St Mary's Church Centre  
Station Road, Twyford, Reading, Berkshire RG10 9NT



## Safeguarding Policy Promoting a Safer Church

The following policy was agreed at the LEP Church Members Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our churches are 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.

We will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named LEP Safeguarding Officer (SO) to work with the incumbent, the URC minister, the PCC and URC Elders 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 our churches.
- Display in church premises and on the front page of 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 Team 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.
- Inform the Diocesan Safeguarding Team if we use an alternative DBS Umbrella Body to APCS and if we receive any DBS Disclosures that are not clear.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

/continued overleaf

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**"Loved by Christ & Challenged to Grow"**

The Parochial Church Council of Ruscombe and Twyford is a registered charity (reg. number 1143142).

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

**Our Safeguarding Officer is:**

Name: Claire Lawrence

Mobile: 07974 650871

Email: safeguarding-LEP@thru-christ.org.uk

**Our Children's Advocate is:**

Name: Connor Heath

Mobile: 07881 446654

Email: connor@thru-christ.org.uk

Signed:

REC Lay-  
Vice  
Chair.

*[Handwritten signature]*

URC Minister

*[Handwritten signature]*

Safeguarding Officer

*[Handwritten signature]*

Churchwarden (St Mary's)

*[Handwritten signature]*

Churchwarden (St James')

*[Handwritten signature]*

URC Elder

*[Handwritten signature]*

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Based upon Diocese of Oxford Model Safeguarding Policy as revised September 2021