

Policy for Safeguarding Adults when they are Vulnerable

Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Little Gaddesden, in the Church of England Diocese of St Albans

This Policy was agreed following consultation with the Parochial Church Council on 8th December 2022

A definition of 'Vulnerable Adult' is 'adults at risk of harm or abuse'. We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that all adults should be offered respect and given inclusion and empowerment within the Church.

- We are committed to implementing a safeguarding policy for adults when they are vulnerable accepting the Church of England Policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and being responsive to local parish requirements.
- As a PCC we formally adopt the Houses of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church safeguarding policy statement 2017' and work to the House of Bishops' safeguarding guidance, reporting the progress of our duty of compliance at each APCM.
- We will appoint a designated Parish Safeguarding Officer.
- We will review and endorse all Safeguarding Policies and Domestic Abuse Statement annually so that all members are aware of their responsibilities.
- We will carefully select those working with vulnerable groups using the Safer Recruitment Checklist and these workers will be given appropriate support and opportunities for training. Safeguarding Activity Risk Assessments will be completed for each church activity including reference to the Parish Safer Images Policy.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made that a vulnerable adult for whom we are responsible may have been harmed.
- We will report any safeguarding incidents to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor and in compliance with the Charity Commission delegation of reporting guidance.
- This Parish will co-operate fully with the statutory agencies in every situation and will not conduct its own investigations.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to any adult who has suffered abuse.
- We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended in a manner which could affect adults who are vulnerable.
- The PCC acknowledges its responsibility for all work with vulnerable people done in the name of the Church and requires all those engaged in such work to be properly appointed and supported in accordance with the Church of England Practice Guidance: Safer Recruitment and People Management (June 2021) and the Parish Recruitment of Ex- Offenders Policy Statement.

We have appointed as our Parish Safeguarding Officer: Heather Tisbury

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Position:

Date: 8th December 2022

Review Date: December 2023