

## **Safeguarding Annual Report for 2025/26**

At All Saints our culture continues to be that the safety and well-being of all people, especially children and vulnerable adults, is to be taken seriously. From a Parish Safeguarding point of view, we hope to continue to keep people safe, supported and informed as much as possible. We care hugely that All Saints is a safe and caring space for all.

We are very lucky in that Angela Clark and Gail Hastilow continue to be part of the team. Angela supports our DBS and safer recruitment procedures. DBS checks are now on a three-year cycle. Safeguarding Training in many roles is a very important part of All Saints life and we would encourage and support people to be involved in looking at their training needs for the groups they are part of. Gail has now set up a training café every second Sunday after church. This is to help support people with training needs and we would encourage people to reach out to us for support if they need help in this area. We are here to support.

It is wonderful to have Revd Emily with us now to support with our safeguarding work particularly with the focus on working with safeguarding groups within the Minster Community. The Minster Community Safeguarding Group now meet on a quarterly basis at churches within the Minster Community. The aim of the group is to share skills and ideas and help Co-ordinators and volunteers navigate the changes within our parishes, Another aim is to strengthen links with Co-ordinators, pastoral carers, clergy and Diocesan safeguarding structures now that we follow the National Church safeguarding policies and procedures. The five key standards of which are as follows:

- 1) Culture, leadership and capacity
- 2) Prevention
- 3) Recognising, assessing and managing risk
- 4) Victims and survivors
- 5) Learning, supervision and support

We continue to follow correct procedure and policy so that all people are recruited to teams and roles using the official 'Safer Recruitment' procedures. This year we have obtained enhanced 6 new DBS reports for people between April 2025- February 2026.

We continue to be very grateful for people at All Saints who volunteer for our various teams, groups and also the PCC. Thank you for continuing to have firm commitment to a safe culture in our church.

The Safeguarding Dashboard is presented at every PCC meeting. This is a helpful aid in ensuring that we continue to be compliant with the policies and procedures of safeguarding. This also ensures we can move forward with any outstanding issues which are an important part of church governance work and remains a very helpful tool. We now also have the worksheets that PCC are working through, this links up to the five key standards set out by the National Safeguarding Church.

Formal safeguarding incidents or any causes of concern are reported to the Diocese Safeguarding Team. We are grateful to the Diocesan Safeguarding advisors who are always helpful with all queries we have and the guidance we require together with the support and acknowledgment of the confidential nature and sensitivity of any work undertaken. The PCC holds safeguarding to be of paramount importance. It is a standing item on all agendas and the safeguarding policy is reviewed annually.

In 2025 the PCC complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. This duty is to have regard to the House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Claire Gregson, Safeguarding Co-ordinator, All Saints with Holy Trinity