Diocese of Salisbury
Making Jesus Known

Role profile: Parish Safeguarding Officer

The Parish Safeguarding Officer ensures the safety of children and vulnerable adults in church. They provide a crucial link between the parish and the diocesan Safeguarding team.

Duties

The Parish Safeguarding Officer will:

- Discuss any emerging safeguarding issues regularly with the vicar and Parochial Church Council (PCC)
- Establish positive working relationships with the Safeguarding team at the diocese
- Where there is immediate risk, report concerns to emergency services
- Ensure all necessary staff and volunteers are up to date with their safeguarding training
- Have an awareness of all church activities involving children and vulnerable adults
- Be familiar with the Church of England's Safeguarding E-Manual and how it is implemented in local practice
- Support the PCC in its responsibilities around Safer Recruitment and People Management by maintaining records and coordinating DBS checks
- Ensure safeguarding contacts are displayed in all church premises and on websites

Skills and qualities

A Parish Safeguarding Officer is someone who:

- Can communicate why safeguarding is intrinsic to the Christian faith
- Provides challenge in an appropriate, supportive manner
- Can manage sensitive information and understand confidentiality and data sharing
- Is willing to attend training and undertake their own development in the field of safeguarding
- Demonstrates an empathetic but objective approach when dealing with allegations of abuse

Parish Safeguarding Officers are elected by the PCC and should not be related to, or have a conflict of interest with, the vicar or anyone acting on their behalf as an interim arrangement.

We are committed to safeguarding across the Diocese of Salisbury. Each volunteer will be required to go through the safer recruitment process and relevant DBS check for their role.

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