

# Policy Statement on the Safeguarding of children, young people and adults in the Church

This statement was adopted by WOBURN (Parish) at a ~~Parochial~~

Annual Parochial Church Meeting Church Council meeting held on 1st October 2020

This policy statement will be reviewed each year to monitor the progress which has been achieved.

Woburn Parish Church adheres to The Church of England, House of Bishops safeguarding policy statement for children, young people and adults - Promoting a Safer Church; House of Bishops policy statement (2017):

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-12/PromotingSaferChurchWeb.pdf>

The Church of England safeguarding policy statement offers **six overarching policy commitments**:

- 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.

At Woburn Parish Church:

1. We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that each of us may be regarded as vulnerable at some time in our lives.
2. As members of this parish we commit ourselves to respectful pastoral care for all children, young people and adults to whom we minister.
3. We commit ourselves to the safeguarding of people who may be vulnerable, ensuring their well-being in the life of this church.
4. We commit ourselves to promoting safe practice by those in positions of trust.
5. The parish commits itself to promoting the inclusion and empowerment of people who may be vulnerable.
6. It is the responsibility of each of us to prevent the physical, emotional, sexual, financial or material, discriminatory, organizational or spiritual abuse of children, young people or adults, and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect
7. We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with people who may be vulnerable.
8. The parish is committed to supporting, resourcing, training and regularly reviewing those who undertake work amongst people who may be vulnerable.
9. The parish adopts the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese.
10. Each person who works with vulnerable people will agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Sean Stokes as the Church Safeguarding Officer and to represent the concerns and views of vulnerable people at our meetings and to outside bodies.

Incumbent:

S. W. Nutt

Churchwarden:

George Arthur Clark

Churchwarden:

Alison Macpherson

Date:

18th October 2020

# Promoting a safer church

*The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church*

House of Bishops  
Safeguarding Policy  
for children, young  
people & adults

## IF YOU ARE CONCERNED

*that someone you know is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from a Safeguarding Adviser or if necessary report the matter to the Local Authority Social Care Services or the Police without delay.*

Local contacts available to speak to if you have any concerns:

Name: **Paula Sawers**  
Role: **Safeguarding Officer**  
Tel: **07720782470**  
E-mail: **paulasawers@hotmail.co.uk**

Name: **Stephen Nuth**  
Role: **Rector**  
Tel: **01525 290225**  
E-mail: **rectornuth@gmail.com**

Name: **Jeremy Hirst**  
Role: **Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser**  
Tel: **07867 350886**  
E-mail: **safeguarding@stalbans.anglican.org**

Local Authority Social Services:  
**Central Bedfordshire** 0300 300 8301

**IF THERE IS IMMEDIATE RISK OR DANGER  
PLEASE CONTACT THE POLICE ON 999.**

## OUR COMMITMENTS

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk.

## HELPLINES

- NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
- Childline: 0800 1111
- Stop It Now: 0808 1000 900
- NAPAC: 0808 801 0331
- Samaritans: 116 123
- Family Lives: 0808 800 2222
- National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247
- Action On Elder Abuse: 080 8808 8141

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
[www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding)