Diocese of Oxford

Parish Safeguarding Policy promoting a safer church

Parish of St Mary’s North Marston

This policy was agreed at the meeting of the Ecumenical Church Council (ECC)held on the 24/03/21…………In accordance with the Church of England and the Methodist Church safeguarding policies we are committed to the following:

1. Implementing the House of the Bishops’ Child Protection Policy *Protecting All God’s Children*, and the diocesan procedures, which are based on the Children Act 1989, and the Home Office Guidance *Safe from Harm*. And abiding by the Standing Orders 010 and 690 of the Methodist Church safeguarding policies.
2. Promoting a safer environment and culture.
3. Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
4. Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
5. Caring pastorally for all victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
6. Caring pastorally for those who are subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
7. Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

This Parish will:

1. Create a safe and caring place for all.
2. Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)to work with the incumbent and the ECC to implement policies and procedures.
3. 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.
4. Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
5. 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.
6. Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
7. Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following the House of Bishops and Methodist church guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and the Methodist District safeguarding Team and statutory agencies immediately.
8. Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
9. Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and safety of all parties.
10. Ensure that health and safety policy procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
11. Inform the Diocesan Safeguarding and the Methodist District Safeguarding teams if we use an alternative DBS umbrella body to APCS and if we receive any DBS Disclosures that are not clear.
12. Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

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

The church appoints ………Nikki Day……………………….as Parish Safeguarding officer.

Signed by…P.Elsmore………………………………………………Rev Petra Elsmore incumbent

Signed by …AMPerrett…………………………………………...Aly Perrett Churchwarden

Signed by ……PH Mcsweeney…………………………………Tricia Mc Sweeney Churchwarden

Date: 24./.....03/..21.....

A copy of this Safeguarding Policy will be sent to :

[safeguarding@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@oxford.anglican.org)