



Diocese of Guildford



Parish Safeguarding Policy

The Parish of **St Mark, South Farnborough** is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of the children and vulnerable adults within our church community. It is also committed to encouraging an environment where all people, especially those who may be vulnerable, are able to worship and pursue their faith journey with encouragement and in safety.

We are also committed to the implementation of the Diocese of Guildford Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, and the relevant statutory legislation and guidance for the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Parish Safeguarding Policy Statements

Every year the PCC will agree the Parish Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy Statements, displaying each copy in the Church and forwarding one copy of each to the Diocesan Safeguarding Office for their records.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives

The PCC will appoint a minimum of one Safeguarding Representative who will be responsible on behalf of the incumbent and PCC for implementing the Diocesan policy in respect of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The Parish Safeguarding Representative agrees to undertake the key responsibilities of the role as outlined in the Diocesan Safeguarding Guide.

Our Safeguarding Representative is **Jennifer Watson**

Paid Workers and/or Volunteers

All those who undertake work in a regulated activity with children and/or vulnerable adults in the parish on a voluntary or paid basis will be required to:

- Complete a Confidential Self Declaration Form
- Complete the necessary vetting application (CRB)

The Parish of **St Mark, South Farnborough** will seek to ensure that a CRB check is only requested if one is both proportionate and relevant to the position (paid or voluntary) concerned.

All Confidential Self Declarations Forms, references and results of CRB checks will be held securely by the Incumbent (**The Revd Ian Hedges**). Declarations and CRB checks must be undertaken every five years, or sooner if the individual moves to a new post, (unless the application was obtained in the previous six months and the nature of the work is similar).

Any person refusing such checks will not be allowed to work with or have unsupervised contact with children or vulnerable adults in the parish.

All those who work with children and/or vulnerable adults on a regular basis will be made aware of and should familiarise themselves with the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, and will be encouraged to attend Diocesan Safeguarding training every three years.

Children's Activities, Vulnerable Adults Activities, Groups and Events

There are currently no activities running for children or vulnerable adults that require any volunteers to have DBS checks.

Hire of Church Premises

All those who book or use the church hall on a regular basis with an activity involving children or vulnerable adults, shall be required to sign a copy of the parish booking agreement and a declaration that they have read and understand the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, or that they agree to abide by their own organisation's safeguarding procedures.



Policy Statement for the Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

Parish of

St Mark, South Farnborough

The following policy statement was agreed at the PCC meeting held on

13/10/2015

As members of the PCC we commit our church community to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all, especially the young and vulnerable. We recognise that our work with children, young people and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the whole church community and as well as being fully committed to acting within current legislation, guidance, national frameworks and the Diocesan Safeguarding procedures, we will also endeavour to act in an open, transparent and accountable way in working in partnership with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Children and Adult Social Care Services, the Police, Probation Services and other agencies to safeguard children and vulnerable adults and assist in bringing to justice anyone who has committed an offence against them.

1. We will ensure that all the necessary checks are made to promote the safe selection and recruitment of ordained and lay ministers, paid workers and volunteers with children, young people and vulnerable adults, and provide the necessary supervision, support and training to them in order that they can undertake their roles effectively.
2. We will respond without delay to every concern raised that a child, young person or vulnerable adult may have been harmed, or be at risk from harm, or about the behaviour of an adult or child.
3. We will fully co-operate with the Diocese and appropriate statutory agencies during any investigation into abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the church community.
4. We will ensure that pastoral care is made available to children and vulnerable adults and their families and to any member of our church community against whom an allegation is made.
5. We will ensure, in partnership with the Diocese and other agencies, that care and supervision is provided for any member of our church community known to have offended against a child or vulnerable adult, or to pose a risk to them.
6. We are committed to reviewing our policy **annually**, and as part of this, check that our parish safeguarding procedures are up-to-date and relevant.