

Safeguarding

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is being aware of others and their needs. This means challenging situations where needs are not being met or where individuals of any age are being, or appear to be being, abused in any way.

As an Inclusive Church we welcome all people, some of whom will have differing needs and vulnerabilities at different times. We have to recognize this and act appropriately.

Why is Safeguarding important?

At different times in our lives any of us can become vulnerable. In such circumstances, whether permanent or temporary, we need to be confident that our Church is a safe place to be, where there is no risk of exploitation of any kind. We all have a responsibility for making it so.

As followers of Jesus Christ, acts of caring are at the heart of how we respond to the community around us.

Our vocation to love God is embodied in our caring for each other, and in this we need to be aware of those who are vulnerable and to consider their particular needs.

What are we doing about Safeguarding at St Thomas's?

St. Thomas's PCC is responsible for Safeguarding and aims to achieve best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse.

We have established good safeguarding policies as recommended by the Church of England and Salisbury Diocese, including safe recruitment for all roles, paid and voluntary.

We ensure that all staff and volunteers receive appropriate safeguarding training.

We are committed to:

- The care and nurture within respectful pastoral ministry for all people, children, young people and adults.
- The safeguarding and protection of our children, young people and adults.
- The establishment of a caring community, which provides a safe environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose, concerns and find support.

If you have a query or concern about Safeguarding, either for yourself or others, please contact any of the following people:

- **Clare Tawney**, Parish Safeguarding Officer, or
- **Michael Humphreys**, Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer on **01722 322527** (Parish Office), or
- **The Revd Canon Kelvin Inglis** (Rector) on **01722 239463**

- or email: safeguarding@stthomassalisbury.co.uk

(your email will only be seen by a member of the Safeguarding Team)