**Holy Trinity Coleman’s Hatch and St Mary the Virgin Hartfield PCC Safeguarding Annual Report, April 2021**

Since last September (2020) we have continued to carry out DBS checks as and when necessary, all checks completed have been returned as clear. We also continue to use the information systems in place to raise concerns, monitor and support vulnerable persons that have been identified in our church community.

**SQP : Simple Quality Protects**

We continue to work and follow the guidance and good practice identified in our efforts to ensure we met and achieved SQP Level 1 for both churches. Our next step is still to work towards Level 2 once the online audit tool is available.

**Safeguarding Policies**

Our Safeguarding Policy and Safeguarding Statement continue to be reviewed annually and updated copies are displayed in our churches, are available on our website and in our Induction Handbooks. Without PCC meetings during the lockdown/covid period we have had to re-schedule other policy reviews for later meetings and so these will now be reviewed during the coming year.

* Whistleblowing Policy
* Responding to Safeguarding Allegations Policy
* Behaviour Code for Adults Working with children
* E-Safety Policy

**Safeguarding Training**

Face to face safeguarding training is currently not available. It is suggested that all PCC members and volunteers complete the online modules. This should then be updated every 3 years.

* **'C0'** - This is a 'core' module that contains basic messages about safeguarding. It is designed to raise awareness across churches, and the emphasis is that 'safeguarding is everyone's responsibility' and can be completed by anybody.
* **'C1'** - This is the 'foundation module' that everyone who works/volunteers with children and adults in our parishes needs to complete.

Both C0 and C1 can be accessed via the national church online training portal at: <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/>

Our Rector is currently completing her C2 training. The safeguarding officer and churchwardens should also complete C2 once every 3 years.

**Online Bookings and Risk Assessments**

During the Covid-19 situation with churches re-opening we continue to complete weekly risk assessments for all services and maintain an online booking system to enable us to ensure the church is set up to maintain social distancing during services and also implement track and trace should the need arise.

Should you have need to **contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team** then please use:

Team generic email: [safeguarding@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@chichester.anglican.org)

**Andrea McGlew**

**Safeguarding Officer**