

Name of Religious Community: **St. Mary the Virgin, Hartfield**

Charity Registration Number:

### **Safeguarding Policy of the Church of England**

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

### **Statement of Safeguarding Principles**

We are committed to:

- The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults;
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse

To this end:

- We will carefully select, support and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with the principles of Safer Recruitment.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that any adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and/or isolation.
- We will seek to protect survivors of abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of respect and responsibility, where they are trusted by others.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or adult who is vulnerable.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

**The Church of England has approved the following safeguarding policies:**

- *Promoting a Safe Church* (safeguarding policy for adults, 2006)
- *Responding to Domestic Abuse* (guidelines for those with pastoral responsibility, 2006)
- *Protecting All God's Children* (safeguarding policy for children and young people, 4th edition, 2010)
- *Responding Well to those who have been sexually abused*, 2011
- *Safeguarding Guidelines relating to Safer Recruitment*, 2015.

These policies apply to all parts of the church for example, Dioceses, Cathedrals, parishes and Religious Communities, both internally within the organisations themselves, and externally in their pastoral work.

They are characterised by the adoption of these policies locally and the appointment of a designated safeguarding person, being advised by the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser and being engaged in safeguarding training on a regular basis.

Our Religious Community designated safeguarding person is: **Andrea McGlew**

Contact details:

- Email: [andrea.mcglew01@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.mcglew01@gmail.com)
- Phone: **01342 850992/07792069729**

The Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser is: **Colin Perkins**

He may be contacted for advice:


- Email: [colin.perkins@chichester.anglican.org](mailto:colin.perkins@chichester.anglican.org)
- Phone: **01273 425792 / 07500 771210.**

Our formal complaints policy, bullying & harassment and whistleblowing policies (based on the Diocesan model policies) can be found at :

- <http://www.chichester.anglican.org/documents/hr/complaints-policy/>
- <http://www.chichester.anglican.org/documents/hr/preventing-bullying-and-harassment-policy/>
- <http://www.chichester.anglican.org/documents/hr/whistleblowing-policy-procedure/>

This safeguarding policy was adopted by **St Mary the Virgin Church, Hartfield PCC**

It will next be reviewed in **Spring 2026**

Signed: 

Name (Print): **REV CANON JULIE ANNE CARADOC SEAR**

On behalf of the governing body Date: **27<sup>th</sup> January 2025**