

### Edgware Parish Safeguarding Policy 2023 – St Margaret's, St Andrew's & St Peter's 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Everyone 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 being fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. This implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

The following policy was agreed and adopted at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 27/06/2023. Edgware Parish is committed to:

1. Promoting a safer church environment and culture.
2. Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church, in compliance with the newer safer recruitment and people management guidance.
3. Have a procedure in place to deal and responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
4. Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
5. Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
6. Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.
7. The Parish will:
8. Create a safe and caring place for all. Ensure that all PCC members undertake the required safeguarding training.
9. Safely recruit a suitable person as Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
10. Appoint at least one DBS administrator who is responsible for the administration of DBS applications and ensure that they undertake the required safeguarding training.
11. Ensure that the Parish safeguarding officer, Church Wardens undertake the required safeguarding training and 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. Ensure churchwardens are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities
12. Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
13. Display in each church premises and on the front page of the Parish website the Parish safeguarding policy and display contact details for the people who have safeguarding roles to enable them to be contacted if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs. Also display in each church premises the 'Promoting a Safer Church Poster'.
14. Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
15. Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
16. Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred. Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
17. Ensure that the church is following national guidance regarding the use of social media and that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
18. Ensure that Safeguarding must be a standing agenda item at every PCC meeting, with regular reports given by the Parish Safeguarding Officer to the PCC. 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. This Parish has appointed Samantha McCarthy as the Church Safeguarding Officer, with Maureen Barnard at St Margaret's, Andrew Jones at St Andrew's and Martina Enughu at St Peter's. We have appointed Daisy Lai (StM), Jola Eijwunmi ,(StA) and Henry Acquah (StP) as our Children's Champion.

Incumbent: \_\_\_\_\_

Churchwarden: \_\_\_\_\_

Churchwarden: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 27/06/2023