

The Parish of St Barnabas, Swanmore

SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on **11th May 2023**.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims & survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

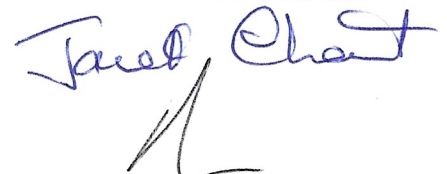
The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures; following statute, guidance and recognised good practice.
- Carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with safer recruitment principles, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records checks.
- Comply with Data Protection Principles, specifically storage of confidential information.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children, young people & adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Have a clear reporting procedure in place to protect children & adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises; following House of Bishops guidance and co-operating fully with statutory bodies in any investigation.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with him or her an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- Offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or adult.
- Promote safe practice by those in positions of trust.
- Ensure that Health & Safety, Lone Working policies, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- 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 church appoints **Caroline Vost** as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Incumbent:

Churchwardens: **Janet Chant & Dave Lee**



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One copy for the parish records and one copy to be sent to the Diocesan Safeguarding Office at Peninsular House