

The United Church of St Mark, Tattenham Corner Safeguarding Policy

The following policy was agreed at the Ecumenical Church Council (ECC) meeting held

On 18th May 2020

This policy statement actively underpins all safeguarding work within the church.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy and the Methodist Church policy our church is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within our community, and will ensure that we will

1. Adopt and implement the House of Bishops' safeguarding policy and practice guidance.
2. Adhere to the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policies
3. Promote and publicise the 'Promoting a Safer Church' policy statement, and ensure all church officers have access to it.
4. Have a plan in place that sets out, in line with national and local priorities, how the policy will be put into action.
5. Ensure that any person who works with vulnerable groups is aware of and abides by national and local safeguarding guidance.
6. Review the policy regularly to ensure best practice

[Promoting a Safer Church](#) sets out the Church of England's commitment to making the church a safer place for all.

The United Church of St Mark fully agrees with the Connexional statement reiterated in Creating Safer Space 2007:

As the people of the Methodist Church we are concerned with the wholeness of each individual. We seek to safeguard all members of the church community of all ages.

The Policies and Practice Guidance apply to all Church bodies and officers. All authorised clergy, bishops, archdeacons licensed readers, Local Preachers and lay workers, church wardens Stewards and PCCs/ ECCs are required by section 5 Clergy Disciplinary Measure to have "due regard" to safeguarding guidance issued by the House of Bishops.

The Policy Statement, Policies, Practice Guidance and Protocols are available to view on the diocesan website at www.cofeguildford.org.uk/safeguardingpolicy together with the Parish Handbook.

Guidance and policies for the Methodist Church can be found at www.methodist.org.uk

The United Church of St Mark will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the ECC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and vulnerable adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Church website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- 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.



- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Following advice from the DSA support and manage the safe involvement of 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.
- Ensure that procedures and risk assessments are in place for all activities 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.

Our Parish Safeguarding Officer are

1. Mel Bracey

E-mail: safeguarding@stmarkschurch.me.uk Phone Number: 07852117100

2. Keith Nelson.

E-mail Phone Number: 01737 212458

SignedECC Secretary/Incumbent. **Date**

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (Case Management)

Jane Huttly E-mail jane.huttly@cofequildford.org.uk Phone 07552 5303555.

Once the safeguarding policy form has been read and signed please save the file and return it to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team by 30th June 2020 by submitting it at www.cofequildford.org.uk/safeguarding-policy-return.

The signed copy must be displayed clearly on the church notice board and it is recommended that it is made available on the Church Website