

## **SAFEGUARDING REPORT**

The Parish Safeguarding Policy in accordance with the House of Bishops Promoting a Safer Church Safeguarding Policy statement will be reviewed and ratified at the first meeting of the new PCC.

The Four R's of Safeguarding are:

**Recognise**  
**Respond**  
**Report**  
**Record**

Recognising that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, recognising the signs and acting on those signs.

Responding in a compassionate and empathetic way.

Reporting and referring on to appropriate services and authorities in a timely manner.

Recording any relevant information so that it is documented.

Most Safeguarding cases are complex and that's why it is important that they are reported in a timely manner so that the diocese safeguarding team can support parishes.

One DBS check was carried out in 2021.

The outcome of the DBS checks are now being sent directly to the Parish DBS validators (Helen Sloan for St Marys), ensuring greater visibility and timely receipts of outcomes. Any Blemished checks will be reviewed by the Diocese Safeguarding Team first before a decision is made.

Thank you to those members of the PCC who have completed the core safeguarding online training during 2021 / 2022.

In 2021 I completed the safeguarding leadership course run by the Diocese.

Last year The Church of England undertook a full review of past safeguarding cases. Victims and Survivors of church related abuse were invited to take part in a major review that was commissioned nationally by the Church of England. The Diocese of Guildford participated in this review and listened and learnt from people's experiences.

Risk Assessments have been undertaken for church activities as deemed necessary. The Covid 19 pandemic remains a focus. All risk assessments are reviewed and updated regularly.

Natasha Macmillan has joined the Diocese Safeguarding team as a Caseworker and will be supporting case management across the diocese, advising and supporting parishes on a range of safeguarding issues. She has a wealth of Safeguarding experience.

Report completed by Helen Sloan PSO on behalf of the PCC.