

Safeguarding at St Michael's

Back in Spring, Claire Clay and I agreed to help out with Safeguarding. Over the past few months, we have been settling into our new roles as Parish Safeguarding Officer and Administrator, so it's about time we provided an update!

Our first job has been helping to ensure that EVERYONE (volunteers as well as paid staff) working with children or vulnerable adults is safely recruited, in line with St Michael's policy, and has completed basic online safeguarding training. The training is incredibly important, not only to help recognise possible abuse or concerns, but to protect volunteers in the valuable work they do. Training can be accessed and completed on the 'Safeguarding' page at: www.oxford.anglican.org and the Basic Awareness course is the best place to start.

The work we are doing falls under 'Promoting a Safer Church' the Church of England's Safeguarding Policy for children, young people and adults. The policy states, 'Safeguarding means the action the church takes to promote a safer culture' and this includes promoting the welfare of children and adults within our community and preventing abuse from occurring.

If you have any concerns about anything at all to do with keeping everyone safe, then please speak to me. I am willing to discuss anything that causes uncertainty or concern, whether this is to do with you and your family, a volunteering role, or an observation you have made. It's always better to discuss something you are unsure about.

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