

Safeguarding Policy

Promoting a Safer Church

St Andrew's Church, High Wycombe

Document Reference	STAC-POL-SG
Version	2026 (Diocese of Oxford model policy, May 2026)
Classification	Internal
Date Issued / PCC Approval	May 2026
Review Date	Annually (minimum)
Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)	Ant Dixon · 07988 076635
Deputy PSO	Jamie Mitchell · 07591 186500
Incumbent	Revd Simon Dust
Churchwardens	Luke Scott · Sharon James
Diocese	Oxford · Diocesan Safeguarding Team: 01865 208295
Approved By	PCC, St Andrew's Church

The content below is the Diocese of Oxford template wording, reproduced exactly as adopted. No changes have been made to the safeguarding commitments or procedures.

Church of England Safeguarding Policy

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 vulnerable 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 (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- 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 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 front page of the parish 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 Team and statutory agencies immediately.
- 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.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.

- Inform the Diocesan Safeguarding Team if we use an alternative DBS Umbrella Body to Verify and if we receive any DBS Disclosures that contain information.
- 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.

Parish Safeguarding Officer

This church appoints **Ant Dixon** as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Authorisation

Incumbent	Revd Simon Dust
Churchwarden	Luke Scott
Churchwarden	Sharon James
PCC Approval Date	May 2026
Next Review Date	Annually — minimum
Recorded on Parish Safeguarding Dashboard	Yes

Note: Once approved, record this policy on the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. You do not need to submit a copy to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.