

**The Six Parishes of Badger, Beckbury, Kemberton, Ryton, Sutton Maddock and Stockton.
Diocese of Lichfield**

**SAFEGUARDING POLICY
PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH**

The following policy was agreed at each parish Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting in April 2019.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our churches are 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 Parishes 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.
- ! Support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- ! Display in church premises and on 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 Adviser (DSA) 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.
- ! Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by the Six Parishes.

These churches appoint Hilary Blakely as the Six Parish Safeguarding Officer.

These churches formally adopt the House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church: Safeguarding Policy Statement'.