

PARISH OF ST LUKE'S Stanmore, WINCHESTER

Parish Safeguarding Policy Statement

Promoting a safer church

Approved by the PCC	August 1st 2026	Review date	August 1st 2027
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The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Luke's Stanmore, Winchester has adopted the Church of England's House of Bishops' safeguarding policies and practice guidance, including the safeguarding policy statement Promoting a Safer Church. The PCC will have due regard to that guidance and will follow the safeguarding procedures of the Diocese of Winchester.

This parish statement records our local commitment and arrangements. It does not replace or amend national Church of England policy and guidance.

Our safeguarding commitments

- 1. Promoting a safer environment and culture.** We will seek to ensure that worship, ministry, pastoral care, community engagement and all parish activities are conducted in ways that protect children, young people and adults and respect appropriate boundaries.
- 2. Safely recruiting and supporting people.** We will use safer recruitment and people-management procedures for all paid and voluntary roles for which they are required, including role descriptions, confidential declarations, references, DBS checks where eligible, induction, supervision and safeguarding learning.
- 3. Responding promptly to safeguarding concerns or allegations.** Concerns will be taken seriously, recorded appropriately and reported without delay in accordance with diocesan and national procedures. Where someone is in immediate danger, the emergency services will be contacted.
- 4. Caring pastorally for victims and survivors of abuse and other affected people.** We will listen carefully, respond with compassion, respect the wishes and needs of those affected where it is safe and lawful to do so, and seek advice from the diocesan safeguarding team.
- 5. Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations and other affected people.** Pastoral support will be offered without compromising risk management, statutory processes, evidence gathering or the needs and safety of victims and survivors.
- 6. Responding to those who may present a risk to others.** We will work with the diocesan safeguarding team and relevant statutory agencies to assess and manage risk, including written safeguarding agreements where required.

How we will put this into practice

Leadership and accountability. The PCC will appoint a Parish Safeguarding Officer and support them in carrying out the role. Safeguarding will be a standing consideration in PCC oversight, risk management and the development of new ministries.

Learning and safer recruitment. Clergy, church officers, employees and volunteers will complete the safeguarding learning and safer recruitment requirements applicable to their roles before, or within the timescales permitted for, beginning their duties.

Safe activities. Activities will be planned and reviewed using appropriate risk assessments, consent arrangements, staffing ratios, codes of conduct, lone-working arrangements and procedures for responding to accidents, incidents and concerns.

Records and confidentiality. Safeguarding information will be recorded factually, shared only on a need-to-know basis and stored securely in accordance with Church of England guidance, data-protection requirements and the safeguarding records retention toolkit.

Premises and partner organisations. Where parish premises are used by outside organisations, the PCC will seek appropriate safeguarding assurances and written hire arrangements. Partnership working will not displace the parish's own safeguarding responsibilities.

Information and reporting. Current safeguarding contacts and information about how to report a concern will be clearly displayed in church and on the parish website. The PCC will review this statement and its safeguarding arrangements at least annually and whenever national or diocesan requirements change.

Safeguarding contacts

Role	Name	Contact details
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Karen Trewinnard	safeguardingofficer@stlukeswinchester.co.uk
Incumbent	The Revd Marianne Foster	vicar@stlukeswinchester.co.uk / 07980837856
Churchwardens	David Finch and Tom Scott	churchwardens@stlukeswinchester.co.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Team	Diocese of Winchester	safeguarding@winchester.anglican.org 01962 737317
Local authority out-of-hours	Hampshire children and adults	0300 555 1373
Immediate danger	Emergency services	999

Approval

This statement was approved by the Parochial Church Council of St Luke's with St Mark's, Winchester, which undertakes to review it annually.

Signed	Marianne Foster	Date	01/08/2026
Name	Revd Canon Marianne Foster	Role	PCC Chair / Incumbent
Next review due	01/08/2027		

Policy framework

This statement should be read alongside the current Church of England safeguarding policy and practice guidance and the Diocese of Winchester's safeguarding procedures and resources.

Church of England: <https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/policy-and-practice-guidance>

Diocese of Winchester: <https://winchester.anglican.org/safeguarding/>