

# **SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT**

## **2026/27**

### **Introduction**

St John's Church is committed to creating a **safe, welcoming, and nurturing environment** where everyone—especially children, young people, and vulnerable adults—is valued, respected, and protected. Safeguarding is integral to our Christian faith, ensuring the church is a place of **trust, care, and accountability** for all who worship, volunteer, work, or visit.

Our practices follow **Diocesan guidance** and the **Church of England's national safeguarding policies**, in line with legal requirements and best practice. Key contacts for safeguarding concerns are clearly displayed in the church and on the parish website.

This policy was agreed by the **Parochial Church Council (PCC)** and presented at the **APCM on 26 April 2026**.

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### **Our Safeguarding Commitments**

In accordance with the Church of England, we commit to:

1. **Promoting a culture of safety** throughout the church community.
  2. **Recruiting, training, and supporting** anyone working with children, young people, or vulnerable adults.
  3. **Responding promptly and appropriately** to all safeguarding concerns or allegations.
  4. **Providing pastoral care** for victims, survivors, and those affected by abuse.
  5. **Managing risk responsibly**, including monitoring individuals who may pose a risk to others.
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## How We Safeguard

To uphold these commitments, St John's Church will:

- **Provide a safe and welcoming environment** for everyone.
- **Appoint a Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)** – Claire Webber – to oversee policy implementation.
- **Ensure all staff and volunteers are properly recruited, trained, and supported** to recognise and respond to abuse.
- **Maintain appropriate insurance** for all parish activities involving children, young people, and adults.
- **Display safeguarding contacts** clearly in church and online.
- **Take all disclosures seriously** and act according to the House of Bishops' guidance, notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser and statutory agencies where necessary.
- **Offer ongoing support** to victims, survivors, and anyone affected by safeguarding issues.
- **Monitor and manage risks** posed by any member of the church, prioritising safety while maintaining confidentiality.
- **Review safeguarding practices annually**, ensuring policies and procedures remain effective.

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## Responsibility

Everyone involved with the church—staff, volunteers, and members—is expected to follow this policy and the Church of England's safeguarding guidelines. The PCC has had “due regard” to the House of Bishops' guidance in all matters relating to safeguarding.

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Claire Webber

**Incumbent:** Revd Canon Dr Matthew Rhodes

**Churchwardens:** Caroline Gracey and James Weston

# ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, RANMOOR

## Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Policy April 2026



THE DIOCESE  
OF SHEFFIELD

# St John's Church, Ranmoor – Parish Safeguarding Policy

## 1. Key Messages

The Parish Safeguarding Policy is underpinned by the following principles:

- **Promoting a safe environment and culture** throughout the church.
- **Safely recruiting and supporting** all individuals with responsibilities for children, young people, and vulnerable adults.
- **Responding promptly** to all safeguarding concerns or allegations.
- **Providing pastoral care** for victims and survivors of abuse, and others affected.
- **Providing pastoral care** for those subject to concerns or allegations, while maintaining fairness and accountability.
- **Managing risks** posed by individuals who may present a current threat to others.

## 2. Policy Statement

As members of the Church of England, we are committed to the **wholeness and well-being of every individual** within God's purpose. The church seeks to safeguard **all members of the community**, regardless of age.

It is the responsibility of everyone in the church to protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults from **physical, emotional, and sexual abuse**, as well as from neglect.

This policy and associated procedures are **regularly reviewed** and may be updated at any time. Changes will be communicated to PCC members and published to the Parish. Full versions of the Church of England and Sheffield Diocese Safeguarding Policies are available online:

<https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/safeguarding>

The PCC adopts the **Diocesan Policy Statement** and displays it prominently throughout church premises, including:

- Ranmoor Parish Centre entrance
- Annexe entrance to Ranmoor Parish Centre
- Choir vestry
- Back of church near North Door
- Bell Tower

The PCC also adopts the **Safer Church Policy** issued by the House of Bishops and displays relevant posters on noticeboards and the parish website.

### 3. Application of the Policy

- **All new church workers**, whether paid or voluntary, will be briefed on the policy by the Vicar, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), or group leader. They are expected to accept and follow its guidelines.
- **New PCC members** must also accept and adhere to the safeguarding policy.
- A **PCC-appointed group** will oversee the implementation and review of the policy, using the “Model Safeguarding Checklist” and placing it on the PCC agenda at least annually.
- The PCC will appoint a **Safeguarding Representative** and provide their details to the Church House administrator.

### 3. Lockdown Impact

The consent form introduced for online meetings during the 2020-21 lockdown is still be used if necessary, however, in 2022 we moved to face to face meetings in all of our children and young peoples groups. Now in 2025 we still have an online presence therefore ensuring we get permissions for the storing of images, content, and media that children are involved in is essential. The PCC agreed that all video and film media will be removed from our social media platforms and websites including YouTube and Facebook within 6 weeks of it being posted.

### 4. Times when Childrens Groups meet:

The following times are a guide as to when our children and young people meet throughout the term:

#### Normal Choir Meeting Times :

\* *Regular times when children under-18 are required DURING TERM TIME:*

Monday 16.30-18.00 (Children 5-16)

Wednesday 18.30 - 20.00 (Children 8-16) (except when Choristers sing evensong, when they are there 16.45-18.15)

Wednesday 19.30 - 21.30 (usually just to 21.00) Adults and Choral Scholars

Sunday 9.15-11.45, 17.15-19.30

**Footsteps (Sunday school)** (3 – 15 years) Sundays 10.30 -11.30am

**Toddler Group** – Thursday mornings during term time 10am-11.30am. Children are not left without parent or guardian.

**Messy Church** – 2 hours sessions, Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Children are accompanied by parent or guardian

**Board Games Café** - 3 hours sessions, adhoc sessions throughout the year. Children are accompanied by parent or guardian

**Bell Ringers** (8 years upwards)

- Services – Sunday morning and evening
- Weddings and funerals as published in the church diary
- Practices - Tuesday 7pm- 9.00pm

### 5. Choir

St John's has a long and established tradition of choral music and have children's choirs. It is the responsibility of the Director of music and the PCC to ensure that all aspects of this safeguarding policy are fully complied with across all the work with young people. As the Director of music is

the person who has day to day responsibility for the choirs he/she will undertake Diocesan safeguarding training in line with Diocesan expectations. A signed register of all children and adults present at choir practices must be filled in. Children must be appropriately safeguarded whilst in the church and entering and leaving practice. Children must be supervised with at minimum of 2 independent adults at all times during practice and services. The ratios of Child-Adult should always be adhered to.

## 6. Bellingringing

The PCC adopts all of the principals, procedures and guidance as set out in the Church Bell Ringers-General statement on safeguarding children in towers as issued in December 2015 <https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/safeguarding>. The Tower Captain and the PCC will ensure that all aspects of the statement and this safeguarding policy will be fully complied with. The Tower Captain and Deputy/assistant/bell ringing teachers/trainers must undertake safeguarding training, in line with Diocesan expectations, which must be refreshed every three years. A signed register of all children and adults attending bell ringing practices and ringing sessions where children and adults are present must be filled in.

## 7. Registers

Registers for all Groups involving Children and Vulnerable Adults must be kept and store in a secure place. The registers once finished with must be given to the Safeguarding Officer to Archive. Registers should be stored indefinitely. It is the responsibility of the group leader to pass registers to the Parish Safeguarding officer.

## 8. Activities away from the church building

Our policy also covers activities which take place away from the church building. All activities undertaken away from the building or out of the normal context should work within the Safeguarding Guidance and a full risk assessment should be completed.

## 9. Recruitment

The PCC is responsible for the appointment of those working with children, young people and vulnerable adults, paid or unpaid. Often the responsibility is delegated to the incumbent. At least two individuals (who could include the incumbent) must be responsible for recruitment. All those involved in recruitment must be capable and competent, trained in safer recruitment and able to keep personal matters confident. The P.C.C. will follow the recruitment process included in the Safeguarding Children Policy. References, the Confidential Declaration and a DBS via Thirtyone:eight (formerly CCPAS) will be obtained. Appointment to any post, paid or voluntary, will not be made until these processes are complete. All appointments will be made on a conditional basis until the completion of a satisfactory probationary period. All those working with children and young people will follow the good practice guidelines in the Diocesan Safeguarding Children Policy and Guidelines.

## 10. Disclosure and Barring Service

It is the responsibility of all Group Leaders to inform the Safeguarding Representative (Claire Webber) of any new individuals over 16 involved in any capacity with children and vulnerable adults. New

applicants will be required to complete a DBS. The DBS will be completed online by the applicant and the applicant will have to arrange with the Parish Safeguarding Officer to bring in suitable ID and verification documents. Until authority has been given by the Safeguarding Representative it is the responsibility of the Group Leader to ensure activities are not undertaken by the applicant. The **Update** DBS service is not permitted in the Diocese. A confidential declaration will also be required by each applicant and must be returned to the Safeguarding Officer at the time of DBS application being made.

## 11. PCC Members

All members of the PCC should complete a confidential declaration before appointment and a DBS will be required. PCC Members must also complete a Trustee Eligibility Declaration.

## 12. Church Premises

Any organisation booking the use of church premises will be informed of the need to observe the policy via a statement on the Booking Form. They should be expected to confirm they have a Safeguarding policy and appropriate insurance. Individuals booking church premise for private functions will have the policy drawn to their attention and accept their responsibility for protecting children at that function.

## 13. Parish Centre Premises Hire

If the premises are hired the user will sign the model church premises agreement. The booking agreement is conditional upon the user complying with it unless they already have an equivalent Safeguarding policy of their own. This applies for a regular booking and a one off booking.

## 14. Staffing and ratios to children

There must be at least two adults present at meetings of Footsteps, Junior Choir practices, youth group and Bell Ringers. If the group is of mixed sex, ideally there should be a male and a female leader present.

We are blessed at St John's as we have some of our young adult helpers (under 18) who have been DBS checked. These young adults are able to support groups as *young adult helpers* however should not be the *second adult* if it is a member of the same family or if there are no other adults present. If this is the only option for supervision available for example footsteps, the parents should be advised and best practice in this instance would be to have the session at the back of church instead of in the annexe. If a 16 year old -18 year old is one of the helpers there should be a 5 year gap between the young person and the children he/she is helping to support.

There is no specific guidance about supervision ratios for organisations that are not in the education or early years sectors. NSPCC provide best practice guidance to help other organisations work out how many adults are needed to supervise children safely. Aat least two adults present when working with

or supervising children and young people. We recommend the following adult to child ratios as the minimum numbers to help keep children safe:

- 0 - 2 years - one adult to three children
- 2 - 3 years - one adult to four children
- 4 - 8 years - one adult to six children
- 9 - 12 years - one adult to eight children
- 13 - 18 years - one adult to ten children

**Avoid lone working:** Those working or volunteering with children on behalf of the church should avoid situations where they are on their own with a child. This includes 'formal' situations such as youth groups, choirs and bell-ringing, and so on, and less formal setting such as before and after those groups, giving lifts home, and so on.

### **15. Registration and Parental consent**

All groups will keep a register of those attending each session. Parental consent forms, including emergency contact details, media consent, must be completed for all participants, and must be available to group leaders whenever the group meets. This applies to all groups, whether meeting on church premises or elsewhere.

### **16. Insurance**

The P.C.C. will ensure that there is adequate insurance cover for all activities for children and young people who are participating in any church led activities. Parish Centre Users must have their own group liability insurance. Parish Centre users are not covered by Church Insurance.

### **17. Fire Regulations and Security**

All group leaders will be aware of fire regulations and the positions of fire extinguishers. They will be vigilant as to the presence of anyone on the premises during the meetings of the groups. They should know who to contact in an emergency relating to the building. The Fire Policy is updated and reviewed annually.

### **18. Food and Hygiene**

If any group is involved in the preparation or selling of food, at least one leader should have completed the food hygiene and food safety course to ensure good practice is followed.

Wednesday Lunch Club and Sunday Social – All volunteers must complete allergy training and either level 1 food safety or level 2 food safety. Any allergies should be ascertained from the registration forms completed by the parents / individuals.

#### **Nuts and Allergen Awareness**

The church seeks to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all children, young people and adults using its premises. We recognise that some members of the church community and those attending church activities may have serious food allergies.

The church is aware of a severe peanut allergy affecting a child who participates in the choir. In order to reduce the risk of accidental exposure, peanuts and foods containing peanuts should not be brought

to church activities where children are present, including footsteps, choir rehearsals and the toddler group.

Those providing food for church activities or events are asked to:

- check ingredient labels carefully for nuts and other common allergens;
- avoid bringing foods containing peanuts to children's activities;
- make reasonable efforts to identify and communicate the presence of common allergens in any shared food.

Parents and carers remain responsible for managing their child's allergies and should inform group leaders of any known allergies or dietary requirements.

The Wednesday Lunch Club operates its own established allergen procedures, which will continue to be followed for that activity.

All leaders and volunteers should act with reasonable care and awareness in relation to food allergens and take concerns seriously to help minimise the risk of allergic reactions.

## 19. Alcohol and Smoking

Adults must not consume alcohol when they're directly responsible for young people on Church activities and or residential. They mustn't permit young people, aged under 18 years, to consume alcohol on activities. For chaperones on residential trips a clear plan (part of the risk assessment) should be made to ensure there is always at least one adult as a designated driver. Adult leaders must act in ways that recognise that they are role models for young people at all times.

Smoking: legal requirements: Smoking is illegal in any enclosed public premises. There is no minimum age limit for smoking, although those under 18 are not permitted to buy tobacco products. Smoking: good practice. Adults should avoid smoking in the presence of young people. Young people who are smokers should be advised of a designated area away from others. On residential trips it is appropriate to include a question on smoking on the parental consent form to establish parental knowledge of the young person's use of cigarettes.

## 20. Mental Health Awareness

The Parish follows the Diocese's guidelines on mental health. The safeguarding officer has attended training to develop a basic awareness of mental health, and a member of the Pastoral Care team is a senior mental health professional. Advice can be sought from the safeguarding advisors should the need arise

## 21. First Aid and Accidents

St. John's is committed to ensuring that each group has at least one adult present who has attended a basic first aid course. Properly stocked first aid kits are available in the following locations:

- **Ranmoor Parish Centre:** Cleaning cupboard and kitchen
- **Church:** Mounted on the wall at the entrance to the toilet
- **Annexe:** Kitchen area

Regular Essential First Aid – All Ages and paediatric courses are conducted, with a strong representation of staff and volunteers who currently hold training. These individuals include both paid and voluntary members serving in various roles within the Church

### Defibrillator –

We have 2 defibrillators on the premises.

- 1) A 24-hour access defibrillator is available on the front of the Parish Centre building. For access please call 999
- 2) A defibrillator is at the back of church (near disabled access doors) which is available during the church opening hours. There is no lock on this unit.

In the event of any accident, an incident and accident report form should be completed. This should be kept securely in a marked file. Parents / Carers should also be informed of any accident.

## **22. Providing an Independent Person**

Children and young people should have the opportunity to raise any concerns about any health and safety or protection matters. A notice will be placed on the noticeboard and/or entrance to church and to all church premises with the name of the Parish Safeguarding Representative, Childline telephone number and of any other independent person the parish appoints to afford this opportunity.

## **23. Allegations**

If an allegation is received concerning the behaviour of an adult, the Diocesan Allegations Policy will be followed. (this can be found <https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/safeguarding>)

## **24. Whistleblowing**

The diocese is available for advice and support on whistleblowing. This is when a paid church officer decides to pass on information concerning a wrong doing that they consider is in the public interest. This means it must affect others, e.g. the general public. This includes failure to adhere to health and safety requirements that place others in danger, a 'cover up' by someone and/or a criminal offence.

## **25. Serious Incident Reporting**

The Church has worked with the Charity Commission to agree bespoke guidance for DBFs, PCCs and Religious Communities on how to identify and report a safeguarding Serious Incident. All individual Serious Incidents must be reported to the Charity Commission using the new online form, which [can be accessed on their website](#).

## **26. GDPR**

St John's complies with all data protection legislation especially in regard to using (e.g. storing) information about any church officers and any safeguarding records.

## **27. Risk Assessment**

For all daily activities undertaken which involve children, young people and vulnerable adults, a risk assessment should be undertaken and reviewed yearly. This is the responsibility of the group leader to carry out and must be updated yearly and shared with the safeguarding officer. A risk assessment will be completed when any out of the ordinary church activities take place. A representative on the PCC will be nominated on behalf of the PCC to undertake this usually with the group leader. Mark Gregory – Church Warden is the current representative and will liaise with the PSO (Claire Webber)

## 28. Review

All children and young people's workers will meet to review their work on an annual basis. This should include a review of child protection issues and health and safety issues relating to each group. Notification of this meeting should be reported to the P.C.C.. The Parish Safeguarding Representative will review the parish policy annually and report to the P.C.C. who will record this review in their minutes. The P.C.C. will inform the Archdeacon via the visitation that this has been done. A copy of the current Parish Safeguarding Policy should be sent to the Archdeacon for inclusion in the parish file. A further copy should be sent if there are substantial amendments. *Childrens team safeguarding meeting held 22/4/2025 review annually.*

## 29. Domestic Abuse

St John's remains committed to those who have been survivors/victims of domestic abuse and to addressing the processes that lead to domestic abuse. Domestic abuse in all its forms is contrary to the will of God and an affront to human dignity. All need to play their part in preventing or halting it. The Safeguarding Officer has been trained in responding to domestic abuse and anyone with concerns over a friend or colleague in the Parish can contact the safeguarding officer for advice.

## 30. Safeguarding Training

This takes place through the Church of England National Safeguarding Training Online Portal covering the following:

**Basic Awareness** – 60-90mins – For everyone within Church communities who need to have a basic awareness of safeguarding issues.

**Foundation (C1)** – 60-90mins – For those who hold positions of responsibility for the safeguarding of others within church settings.

**Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse** – 90-120mins – A specialist course exploring the nature and dynamics of domestic abuse, with a focus on church settings. Required for anyone holding the Bishop's Licence, commission, authorisation or PTO, Spiritual Directors, Bishops Visitors, Pastoral Visitors and Safeguarding Officers. This training should be refreshed every 3 years.

**Safer Recruitment and People Management** – 90-120mins – Required for those with responsibility for recruiting and/or administering DBS, inc Ministers/Clergy Senior Staff, Safeguarding Officers and other Church Officers in a leadership role.

**Modern Slavery Training** – 60-90mins – This course, from the Clewer Initiative, aims to provide a general understanding of modern slavery and human trafficking, and how you can recognise & respond to concerns relating to it.

**Leadership** – For all those who are in positions of safeguarding leadership within church settings. **Senior Leadership** – A course for senior leaders that aims to connect the Church's mission and theological foundations with safeguarding principles

The parish will consider its training needs at the time it reviews the Safeguarding Policy. If specific needs are identified the parish will consult with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.

## 31. Responding to Allegations against Church Officers

St John's remains committed to responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation as set out in 'Promoting a Safer Church' the Church of England's Policy Statement for children, young people and adults. This requires that anyone who brings any safeguarding suspicion, concern,

knowledge or allegation of current or non-current abuse to the notice of the Church will be responded to respectfully and in a timely manner. The response must also be in line with statutory child and adult safeguarding procedures, criminal and ecclesiastical law and the House of Bishops' safeguarding policy and practice guidance. **Please note: Any allegation against clergy or lay ministers holding the bishop's licence should be referred to the Bishop via the Chaplain Harry Steele. [Chaplain@sheffield.anglican.net](mailto:Chaplain@sheffield.anglican.net) 07949470178**

### 32. Resourcing the work

Financial resources must not be a hindrance to the promotion of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The Church's budget has an allocation for this.

### 33. Social Media

All those using social media, text messaging and email to communicate with children and young people must follow the House of Bishops Guidance.

### 34. Photography and Video Policy

St John's Church recognises the importance of obtaining **consent** for the creation and use of images of children. Consent must be obtained as follows:

- **Children under 13:** consent must be obtained from parents or carers.
- **Children aged 13–16:** consent must be obtained from both parents/carers **and the child**.
- **Children aged 17:** consent must be obtained from the child themselves.

**Full names of children should not be published** with images unless:

- It is necessary, for example, to celebrate a performance or achievement; and
- Both the child and parent(s)/carer(s) have given explicit consent.

Given the church's ongoing online presence, it is essential to **secure consent for all images, videos, and other media** featuring children.

**Social Media and Website Policy:**

- All video and film media involving children must be **removed from social media platforms and the parish website**, including YouTube and Facebook, **within six weeks of posting**.

### 35. Lone Working

Individuals working alone either in a voluntary or paid capacity must follow the following protocol:  
a) Try to ensure someone else is in attendance b) keep mobile phone with you at all times 3) keep external doors locked 4) ensure a member of the team knows you have entered a premises alone and left safely 5) have an emergency contact ready in case of emergencies. 6) A WhatsApp group has been set up for staff lone working

### 36. Volunteer Drivers

A disclaimer has been signed by all volunteer drivers who are driving people to and from Church.

### 37. Key safeguarding responsibilities

For parishes are outlined in the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance Safeguarding e-manual. The e-manual contains the latest Safeguarding Code of Practice, House of Bishops' Safeguarding Guidance and good practice advice.

### 38. Safeguarding Display and Awareness around the Parish

A notice board has been set up in the Church displaying Parish-specific contacts, Diocese To promote a culture of safety and transparency, the Church has established a visible and accessible safeguarding display within its premises. A dedicated notice board prominently features:

- Parish-specific safeguarding contacts
- Diocesan safeguarding information
- National helplines and police contact numbers
- Emergency charities offering support

In addition, the Church has introduced a dedicated campaign titled '**Speak Up**', aimed at empowering individuals to report any concerns or unsettling observations within the Church community.

Further measures include:

- A comprehensive **Safeguarding** section on the Church website, providing key resources and helpful links
- Church officers' emails now include safeguarding contact information in their signatures
- The '**Speak Up**' message is published in the Church newsheet **at least once a month**, reinforcing the importance of vigilance and open communication

These initiatives work together to ensure safeguarding is an ongoing, visible, and integral part of parish life.

### 39. Safer Recruitment for Church Volunteers

Ensuring the safety and well-being of children and vulnerable adults is central to our mission. As part of our commitment, we follow a structured Safer Recruitment process for all volunteers, especially those involved with children's and youth work.

**A. Role Descriptions**, Each volunteer role must have a **clear role description** outlining: Responsibilities Supervision, expected conduct, Safeguarding responsibilities. The template is available from the PSO – each individual leader is responsible for recruiting and keeping the forms.

**B. Application Process** All prospective volunteers must complete a **Volunteer Application Form**. Include **two references**, ideally one professional or from another volunteer role. References must be checked and recorded before the volunteer begins.

**C. Interviews/Informal Meetings** An informal conversation or interview should be held to: Assess suitability for the role, discuss previous experience with children/vulnerable people, Share safeguarding expectations and procedures,

**D. DBS Checks** All volunteers working with children or vulnerable adults must undergo an

Enhanced DBS Check (with Barred List check where applicable). DBS checks must be renewed in line with national guidance (3 years).

**E. Safeguarding Training** Volunteers must complete:

Basic Safeguarding Training, Foundation Level Training (if their role involves direct work with children), Training must be renewed in line with Church of England or diocesan policy.

**F. Probationary Period** New volunteers will be subject to a 3-month probation period, during which: They will be supervised, Their suitability will be reviewed. Additional support or training may be offered

**G. Ongoing Support and Supervision** - Volunteers will receive: Regular check-ins with a leader or safeguarding officer, Updates on safeguarding procedures, Opportunities for continued training

**H. Record Keeping** - Records of: Application forms, References, DBS certificates (number and date), Training completions, Role descriptions, These will be stored securely by the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

**40. Parish Safeguarding Hub, Dashboard and Action Plan**

The Parish Utilises the Diocesan Safeguarding Hub, Dashboard, and Action Plan to monitor safeguarding practices and ensure full compliance with current legislation. The Action plan will be reviewed 1/4ly by the PCC.

These tools and initiatives help embed safeguarding deeply into parish life, ensuring it is visible, accessible, and continually monitored

~~Read and agreed by the following on behalf of the P.C.C. \_\_\_\_\_~~

Church: **St. John the Evangelist, Ranmoor**

**Approved online with PCC 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

Signed .....

Name in print: Revd Canon Dr Matthew Rhodes

Signed .....

Name in print: Claire Webber

PCC Safeguarding Representative

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:**

Claire Webber

Diocese of Sheffield  
Ranmoor Parish Centre  
5 Ranmoor Park Road  
Sheffield, S10 3GX  
0114 230 1199

[safeguarding@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)

Safeguarding Policy 2026/27

St. John the Evangelist, Ranmoor

All issues that may have an impact on safeguarding must, in the first instance, be discussed with Claire Webber, if for any reason Claire is unavailable you can either contact The Vicar of St John's or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team for advice:

### Sheffield Diocese Safeguarding Team:



Sian Checkley

Safeguarding Adviser

[sian.checkley@sheffield.anglican.org](mailto:sian.checkley@sheffield.anglican.org)



Elin Penttila

Assistant Safeguarding Adviser

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Rachel Tankard

Assistant Safeguarding Adviser

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David Gerrard

Archdeacon of Sheffield and  
Rotherham

[david.gerrard@sheffield.anglican.org](mailto:david.gerrard@sheffield.anglican.org)

## Out of Hours Emergency

Registered Charity No. 1135432  
Claire Webber

An emergency concern about the safety of a child or an adult is something that needs immediate attention.

If you are considering contacting social care regarding a child or an adult, please do not delay if you are unable to speak to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

If you have a concern and require safeguarding advice that should not wait until the next working day contact.

**Thirtyone:eight on 0303 003 11 11.**

[Thirtyone:eight](#) provide cover during evenings and weekends. They provide advice relating to children and adults and Sheffield Diocese has signed an information-sharing agreement in compliance with GDPR.

- Please inform them that you are calling from Sheffield Diocese
- They will offer advice about your concern and confirm their advice in an email to you. They will also provide you with a PIN number to access the email
- A copy of the email will also be sent to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team (DST) for our records
- The DST will follow up cases as required on the next working day

### **Allegations Against Clergy or Lay Ministers**

Any allegation against clergy or lay ministers holding the bishop's license should be referred to the Bishop via the Archdeacon.



Here to help

[Venerable David Gerrard](#)

Archdeacon Sheffield & Rotherham

**In the event that you are concerned about the immediate safety of a child or adult,  
call 999 and ask for the police.**

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<http://www.sheffield.anglican.org/safeguarding>

## **APPENDIX A**

Contact details for relevant organisations:

We understand reporting abuse may be very difficult and distressing to you and it may add to your hurt by our not being able to immediately assist you. Therefore here are the contact details of other agencies that are available to assist either on a 24-hour basis or through specialist helplines and services:

- **Safe Spaces 0300 303 1056** is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church or as a result of their relationship with the Church of England, the Catholic Church in England and Wales or the Church in Wales.
- **Child-line: 0800 1111** (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are a child or young person and are worried about anything.
- **National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247** ((lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are experiencing domestic abuse.
- **Samaritans Helpline: 08457 90 90 90** (open 24 hours). Phone if you feel you are struggling to cope and need someone to talk to.
- **Action on Elder Abuse Helpline: 080 8808 8141** ( free phone Monday to Friday 9-5pm)
- **NSPCC Child Protection Helpline: 0808 800 5000** (lines free and open 24 hours). Phone if you are worried about a child.



Speak up confidentially

Contact Claire Webber

[safeguarding@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)

0114 230 1199

[www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk/safeguarding](http://www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk/safeguarding)



**Worried about a child?**  
**Worried about an adult?**  
**Have you seen or heard something you are not happy with?**

Here at St John's Ranmoor we have lots of people who can help. Safeguarding is **everyone's** responsibility.

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