

The Benefice of Thrapston, Denford & Islip

SAFEGUARDING POLICY - PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

Safeguarding means the action that we take to promote a safer culture. This means that we will: promote the welfare of children, young people and adults, work to prevent abuse from occurring, seek to protect those that are at risk of being abused and respond well to those that have been abused.

We will take care to identify where a person may present a risk to others, and support them whilst taking steps to mitigate such risks. Our churches will try at all times to maintain a safe environment for all and to practise fully the Gospel's ministry towards children, young people and adults, to respond sensitively and compassionately to their needs to help keep them safe from harm.

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 Parishes will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Benefice Safeguarding Officer (BSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCCs 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 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 Church of England 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.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- 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.

Who to Contact

If you believe that any child or vulnerable adult is at immediate risk of being harmed, you should make a 999 call to the police

- Our Benefice Safeguarding Officer (BSO) is Sarah Pickles. If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child, young person or vulnerable adult connected to the Benefice, or want further information, please contact her on 07967 966462 or safeguarding@tdichurches.co.uk
- The Revd Nolan Robson is Rector of Thrapston, Denford & Islip Churches and he can be contacted on 07860 629451 or rector@tdichurches.co.uk
- Concerns can be raised with Peterborough Diocesan Safeguarding Team on 01733 887040 or 01733 887039 or safeguarding@peterborough-diocese.org.uk
- Concerns may also be raised directly with MASH (Multi-agency safeguarding hub) regarding children and young people who can be contacted on 0300 126 1000 or with North Northants Council Adult Social Care department regarding vulnerable adults on 0300 126 3000 or via their website <https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/arranging-care/report-safeguarding-concern-about-adult>

This church appoints Sarah Pickles as the Benefice Safeguarding Officer.



Incumbent Date: 23rd September 2026

This policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meetings:

Thrapston and Islip PCC on the 16th September 2026

Denford PCC on the 22nd September 2026