

## **Safeguarding in the Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade**

If you are affected by any safeguarding issue, we take your concerns with utmost seriousness. We will listen to you sensitively and take action as appropriate. Contact details of our current safeguarding officers are below, along with the Rector's details and the details of the Diocesan safeguarding staff.

The Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade are is a part of the Diocese of St. Albans in the Church of England, whose Archbishops, Bishops, clergy and leaders are absolutely committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church.

Safeguarding means the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will promote the welfare of all 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 offer support to them whilst taking steps to mitigate such risks.

The Church of England affirms the 'Whole Church' approach to safeguarding. This approach encompasses a commitment to consistent policy and practice across all Church bodies, Church Officers and that everyone associated with the Church, who comes into contact with children, young people and adults, has a role to play.

The Church will take appropriate steps to maintain a safer environment for all and to practice fully and positively Christ's ministry towards children, young people and adults; to respond sensitively and compassionately to their needs in order to help keep them safe from harm.

Although safeguarding is the responsibility of all those who worship at Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade we have safeguarding leads for each Church who you can contact about any safeguarding matter:

Kathy Huggins for Kensworth on (01582) 607841;

Meg Bender for Studham on (01528) 872967; and

Mike Bailey for Whipsnade on (01582) 872318.

You can also speak to the Rector, the Reverend Canon Nicola Lenthall on (01582) 872223 or email on [revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com](mailto:revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com)

The Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor is Jeremy Hirst who can be contacted on (01727) 818107 or 07867 350886 or at [safeguarding@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:safeguarding@stalbans.anglican.org); his assistants are Dave Adams on (01727) 818104 or 07469 351357 and Warren Lucas on (01727) 818106 or 07311 310545.

Two very useful links:

More information on the Church of England's National Safeguarding can be found here: [www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding)

More information about Safeguarding in the Diocese of St. Albans can be found here: [www.stalbansdiocese.org/safeguarding](http://www.stalbansdiocese.org/safeguarding)