



Benefice of East Mendip Trinity
Safeguarding Statement
Promoting a Safer church

The Benefice of East Mendip Trinity (the PCC of St Andrew's Holcombe, the PCC of Holy Trinity Coleford and the PCC of St Peter and St Paul Kilmersdon with St Margaret's Babington), adopt and implement the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy 'Promoting a Safe Church' and The Parish Safeguarding Handbook.

The above policies were agreed at the Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM) meetings held on Sunday 4 May 2025

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 of St Andrew's Holcombe, Holy Trinity Coleford and St Peter and St Paul with St Margaret's Babington 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.
- 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 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.
- 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.

The East Mendip Trinity Benefice churches have adopted safeguarding policies to accommodate the hire of a church hall, the admittance of known offenders; and responding to victims of domestic abuse

Responding to and Reporting Cases of Abuse

At first instance (by suspicion, witnessing or disclosure)

- Emergency: Police 101/999 or Social Services 0300 1232224
- Non emergency Diocesan Safeguarding Manager; Ben Goodhind 01749 588917 or : thirtyone:eight Safeguarding Helpline 03030031111:
- Record and report within 24 hours and agree who will inform Diocesan Safeguarding Manager (DSM)
- Parish Safeguarding Officer: Gay Curtis 01761 232140: safechurch84@gmail.com
- Church Hall booking manager: Ann Usher 01373 812179: ausher148@gmail.com

The Diocesan Safeguarding Manager will provide advice and guidance depending on whether there are no longer concerns; still have concerns about a child or adult; still have concerns about a church officer

All allegations of abuse against Church Officers will be reported to the appropriate statutory agency and to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

All records in relation to safeguarding concerns, allegations and the recruitment of volunteers and aid workers will be securely filed.

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

This church appoints Gay Curtis as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Lay Minister: Mary Dolman

Churchwardens of East Mendip Trinity:

Jayne Elton St Andrew's Holcombe

Holy Trinity Coleford

Julia Neesam

Philip Brewer

St Peter and St Paul Kilmersdon

with St Margaret's Babington

Trevor Phillips

Shayne Gibbs

Date: