The Parish of Oakdale St George
SAFEGUARDING POLICY - PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

'The House of Bishops requests that all dioceses, cathedrals and parishes adopt the following policy to ensure consistency across the country. The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 25 June 2020. It replaces v12.0.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy St George's 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 Parish 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.

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 **Mr James Bough** as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Incumbent: Revd Penny Draper

Churchwarden Mrs Sue Phillips

Creation Date: 25 June 2020

Last review: 24 November 2026

Contacts	
Parish Safeguarding Officer	James Bough Tel:
Diocese of Salisbury Safeguarding Team 01722 438651 and press option 2	Email safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org to speak to a caseworker or Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor regarding safeguarding concerns or ongoing cases.
Service Provider thirtyone:eight 0303 0031111	If your query is urgent or out of hours (5pm Friday to 10pm Sunday), please contact thirtyone:eight
	If someone is at immediate risk of harm, please call 999 in an emergency

Dated	Signed	Role	Note
25 June 2020	Penny Draper	Chair of PCC	V12.1 as directed by House of Bishops
3 October 2020 APCM	Penny Draper	Chair of PCC	Change of Churchwarden delete Jenny Read
28 June 2022	Penny Draper	Chair of PCC	Reviewed – addition of Churchwarden Andrew Lewis and photograph of PSO
4 July 2023	Penny Draper	Chair of PCC	Reviewed – removal of Churchwarden Andrew Lewis Add Appendix @Recruitment of ex-offenders'
2 July 2024	Penny Draper	Chair of PCC	Reviewed – update to current Churchwarden
1 July 2025	Penny Draper	Chair of PCC	No changes
24 November 2026	Penny Draper	Chair of PCC	Update ♦ Removal of Shaun Draper & appointment of James Bough as PSO 22/09/2026 ♦ Diocese of Salisbury details