

Safeguarding Policy

St. Dunstan's Catholic Church is committed to promoting the highest standards of safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. The Parish community of St. Dunstan's respects and values the personal dignity and rights of all people and recognises that it has a special responsibility towards those who are young or vulnerable. The Parish is also committed to taking all appropriate steps to maintain a safe environment for all, to practice fully and positively Christ's ministry towards children, young people and vulnerable adults, and to respond sensitively and compassionately to their needs in order to promote their wellbeing and to help keep them safe from harm.

Where required volunteers will be asked to complete necessary Volunteer and Safeguarding Declaration forms and undergo Disclosure (DBS) validation.

St. Dunstan's is committed to working within the safeguarding policies and structures of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. This commitment is expressed by the Parishes alignment with the Safeguarding Commission of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton. The safeguarding policies and procedures set out in this document are informed by and congruent with best practice as described in UK national and local guidance, especially that of the Surrey Local Safeguarding Children Board ("SSCB") and best practice for Roman Catholic Church agencies, as set out in the guidance and advice published by the National Catholic Safeguarding Commission ("NCSC") and the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service ("CSAS"), and especially on the Catholic Safeguarding Resource Area available from CSAS and Diocese of Arundel and Brighton resources webpage.

The monitoring and application of this policy remains a high priority for the Parish.

St. Dunstan's will liaise closely and openly with local Catholic Schools in relation to all safeguarding issues. St. Dunstan's will also liaise closely and openly with statutory authorities and Diocesan agencies to ensure that any concerns or allegations of abuse that are raised are promptly reported and properly addressed, victims supported and perpetrators held to account.

The St. Dunstan's Safeguarding Lead is Adrian Sharman who can be contacted through the Parish Office or directly:

Telephone 01483 308402
Email safeguarding@st-dunstans.org

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Safeguarding
Independent Safeguarding Coordinator Mr Philip Wright
Telephone 01273 241203
Email philip.wright@dabnet.org

Safeguarding Links

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales	www.catholicchurch.org.uk
Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service (CSAS)	www.csas.uk.net
National Safeguarding Policies for the Catholic Church	www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk