

**Parish of St Mary Magdalene, Melchbourne
in the Church of England Diocese of St Albans
Policy for Safeguarding Children**

This Policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council Meeting held on 21st March 2019 and revised during a review in August 2021.

We are committed to implementing a safeguarding children policy and accepting the Church of England Policy set out in the Parish Safeguarding Handbook 2018 and to be responsive to local parish requirements.

- We will review and endorse the safeguarding policies annually so that all members are aware of their responsibilities.
- The highest standards will be maintained in all the Church's contacts with children and young people and adult volunteers will be given appropriate support and opportunities for training.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made that a child or young person for whom we are responsible may have been harmed.
- This Parish will co-operate fully with the statutory agencies in every situation and will not conduct its own investigations.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to any child, young person or adult who has suffered abuse.
- We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended against a child.
- The PCC acknowledges its responsibility for all work with children and young people done in the name of the Church and requires all those engaged in such work to be properly appointed and supported in accordance with the Church of England Practice Guidance: Safer Recruitment (July 2016).
- We have appointed *Sarah Croft* as our Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator.

Stephen Holdroyd, Incumbent

James Stewart, Churchwarden