**Safeguarding Report for APCM 28 April 2024**

Our Safeguarding Officer, Jane Thomas, stood down from this role during 2023. Despite repeated attempts to fill the role, the Vicar having asked 4 different people, the role of Safeguarding Officer remains vacant and therefore, our Safeguarding Provision is below the standards required. With there being no PSO, all concerns regarding safeguarding must be reported to the Diocese of Oxford Safeguarding Officer. Despite this vacancy, the DBS Verifier and Safeguarding Training Officer (Claire Atkins), in conjunction with the Churchwardens has continued to use the Parish Dashboard to ensure that Safeguarding policies and practice are all in place and reviewed when necessary. We are currently up to date with all the requirements.

Our DBS verifier has ensured that all PCC members hold current, valid DBS checks and are fully trained to the levels required.

Our Children’s Officers, Mary Boulton and Swetlana Rodrigues, are present at Junior Choir rehearsals and other events in church involving children. Their role is to ensure that young people are not left alone unsupervised with an adult at any time and to be available to help as a second adult if need be.

The Jericho Youth Choir Director and Administrator are also fully DBS-compliant and safeguarding-trained.

Over the course of the past year, the PCC has complied with the duty to have “due regard to the House of Bishops’ Safeguarding Policy and Practice”.

I would like to thank all the team for their support and work over the past year.

*Christopher Woods*

*Vicar (5 April 2024)*