



Winfarthing and Upper Waveney Benefice

Safeguarding Policy: Promoting a Safer Church

The Winfarthing and Upper Waveney Benefice puts safeguarding at the heart of all we do, based on the guiding principles of welcome, respect and safety.

Our vision is to create a church that is a place of genuine welcome where everyone feels safe, valued and respected. We believe that every human being is made in the image of God and that everyone should be treated with respect regardless of their age, gender, sexuality, ethnicity or capabilities. We are committed to safeguarding children, young people and people at risk so that they can worship and grow in Christ safely.

The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church. Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play in promoting a safer Church for all. Concerns about children, young people and adults at risk will be diligently and promptly responded to, recognising the sensitivity it may hold for those involved. We aim to do this in a coordinated and supported manner, following the advice and guidelines issued by the Church of England and the Diocese of Norwich.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, our Benefice 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 survivors of abuse and other affected persons.

Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concern or allegations of abuse.

Responding to those who may pose a present risk to others.

Each Parish in our Benefice 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.
- Expect church workers to undertake the safeguarding training provided by the diocese.
- 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 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, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer (DSO) 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.

Incumbent: Reverend Tracey Caswell
07742 999633 RevTCaswell@proton.me

Parish Safeguarding Officers (see attached list)

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer Sue Brice 01603 882345
safeguarding@dioceseofnorwich.org

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

This Benefice Safeguarding Policy was agreed at the Churchwardens meeting held on **17th September 2026** and is reviewed annually.

Winfarthing & Upper Waveney Benefice - Safeguarding Contacts:

Church		Post Code	Safeguarding Officer	Email	Phone Number
St John the Baptist	Bressingham	IP22 2AE	EMMA EDWARDS	edwaremma@aol.com	01379 763350
St Mary the Virgin	Burston	IP22 5TP	DAVID CROWE	p-d.crowe@live.co.uk	07710 423537
St Andrew's	Fersfield	IP22 2BL	EMMA EDWARDS	edwaremma@aol.com	01379 763350
St Mary the Virgin	Gissing	IP22 5UJ	MARK RAWDING	Markrawding89@gmail.com	07920 808380
St Nicholas'	North Lopham	IP22 2LP	GILLIAN ABBOTT	gp226@hotmail.co.uk	01379 688473
St Remigius	Roydon	IP22 5RU	CAROLYN O'DEA	carolynodea616@gmail.com	01379 642899
All Saints'	Shelfanger	IP22 2DG	HELEN GREEN	hmgreen@gmail.com	01379 652199
St Andrew's	South Lopham	IP22 2LH	ALISON PURSEHOUSE	alison.pursehouse@sky.com	07776 334500
St Margaret's	Tivetshall	NR15 2BD	LUCY POPP	office@redhousefarm.info	07719 437007
St Mary's	Winfarthing	IP22 2EA	CLAIRE LEVITT	levittclaire@gmail.com	07712 717140