

### **Safeguarding Report for St Mary's PCC AGM April 2017**

As a Parish we continue to follow the guidance set in the Diocese Safeguarding Policy "The Care and Protection of Children and Young People."

There are several groups in the church which require DBS checks for working alongside either adults or children: these include, choir, Lighthouse, TGI, holiday club, crèche, bell ringers, servers, Little footprints, Dodi coffee, nursery, Open the Book and pastoral visitors. There are more than 250 people currently involved with these groups.

DBS checks are renewed every 5 years and in the last year 78 checks have been processed. Safeguarding training must be undertaken every 3 years and in the last 12 months 4 training courses have been offered locally with 35 people attending from St Mary's. It continues to be a great challenge to ensure that people attend these courses when they are offered them.

One concern has been raised in the last year about the welfare of a child who attends one of St Mary's Church children's groups, although the concern was based on observations outside of church activities. Information regarding this was passed onto the Diocese Safeguarding team. We would not necessarily expect to be informed of the outcome of this but it is a good example of Safeguarding training in action.

Caroline Crook - Child Protection and Safeguarding Representative.