

# Forest Hill Team Ministry



APCM  
12 May 2026  
at St George's, Perry Hill

## SAFEGUARDING REPORT – SARA SANBROOK-DAVIES (PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER)

The DCC has a legal requirement to report on safeguarding progress and include a statement as to whether or not they have complied with their duty to have ‘due regard’ to the House of Bishops’ Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.” We can confirm that the DCC has complied with this duty. The Church of England continues to invest significant money and resources into safeguarding across the whole church. This in part is to remove the misconception that safeguarding is just about protecting children. The Church of England’s campaign is called Promoting a Safer Church and they call all churches to share their commitments to safeguarding. We, as St Georges Forest Hill, share these commitments.

These commitments are to:

- Promote a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruit and support all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
- Respond promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Care pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
- Care pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Respond to those that may pose a present risk

Over the past year members of the DCC have participated in safeguarding training through the Church of England, through a session run by the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) and regular updates re safeguarding. The PSO has had the appropriate training and is kept up to date through the diocesan safeguarding team. Over the past year the congregation, both adults and children has been reminded who they can go to should they have any concerns.

The key message with all safeguarding is ‘it could happen here’ and it is everyone’s responsibility.

## MUSIC – GRAHAM LONG (DIRECTOR OF MUSIC)

The small, yet dedicated, choir continues to work hard in making a valuable contribution to supporting the singing in our worship. Sadly, we lost Ruby Robinson who was a long standing and loyal member of the choir – we all miss her dearly. We were pleased to welcome back Carol Gordon to the choir in the past year.

St George's Singers for our younger church members has continued to sing once a month for The Celebrate Together services, with Clare Pollard as their dedicated Director of Music. Unfortunately, numbers have decreased recently but we hope to recruit some more singers in due course.

I would like to express particular thanks to Sara Sanbrook-Davies for the outstanding contribution she often makes with her flute playing – particularly at Christmas, The All Souls Memorial Service and during Holy Week. Naomi Soar also helps with some solo vocal work from time to time which also adds greatly to our musical repertoire. We are exploring ways we can have more of this type of music on occasions. I would also like to thank Rebecca Crawshaw who comes to play the Trumpet for us at The Remembrance Sunday service, helping to create such a special atmosphere and moving contribution.

In the past year, we have also had *Parochialis*, our extended choir (made up of the choir plus some members of the congregation) to perform at certain times of the year – especially, Christmas and Easter. We were also pleased that *Childe Roland* were able to perform for us again at our Carol Service. Sadly, with the Thursday Eucharists at The Chapel being discontinued we are no longer doing some occasional Eucharists with Music at the Chapel.

Making music within worship is very important for many reasons and for many of us this is a way of expressing our faith - a vocation and an opportunity to use our talents to work for the greater glory of God, which we certainly do at St George's – the musicians and I are very privileged to be part of this.

I would like to thank all singers, performers and visiting organists for their efforts and support; the congregation for making a very positive contribution and to the whole Ministry team for their support, encouragement and good nature.

## ECO GROUP – SARA SANBROOK-DAVIES

Our committee was formed last Autumn to look at all aspects of sustainability in church.

### Our Commitment

St George's Church is committed to honouring and caring for the Earth and all its biodiversity as part of God's Kingdom. We recognise our responsibility to protect creation for future generations and commit to living out this calling in all we do.

We are guided by the Fifth Mark of Mission:

“To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth.”

### Our Core Principles

#### 1. Treading Lightly

We will act with care and responsibility, always mindful of our environmental impact in our decisions and actions.

#### 2. Sharing Justly

The Earth is God's gift to all. We aim to take only what we need, ensuring resources are shared fairly among all people and creatures.

#### 3. Valuing and Advocating

We value the Earth that shelters and sustains us. We commit to speaking up for the voiceless—those most affected by climate change, and the Earth itself.

Since the autumn we have applied for and obtained a grant from Lewisham council of £3500 which we are hoping to use towards replacing the doors which will help our heating bill in the winter.