

## Safeguarding at St Joseph's

Shrewsbury Diocese is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. Every human being has a **value** and **dignity** which we, as Catholics, recognise as coming directly from God's creation in his own image and likeness. Therefore, at St Joseph's and other Diocese parishes and communities they must be safe places of welcome where we support and protect one another. We must take particular care of those who may be vulnerable and respond compassionately to their needs to help keep them safe from harm or abuse.

**Everyone in the Catholic Church has a responsibility to safeguard** and promote the wellbeing of those around them and those engaging in activities provided by the Church.

Safeguarding is part of proclaiming the Gospel, for in all our efforts to care and protect the most vulnerable we give witness to Christ. The same Jesus, the Eternal Son of God who became vulnerable and defenceless as a tiny child entrusted to Our Lady and Saint Joseph.

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