



St. John's Wimborne

New Life, Full Life

Reports

for the

Annual Church Meeting

and

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

held on

6th May 2026

PCC Report for the APCM 2026
Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
6th May 2026

The Council has met at regular intervals during the last year. The PCCs five sub-committees also met between PCC meetings. The minutes and recommendations from their meetings were received and discussed by the PCC.

In January, we made plans for the giving review in March to meet our budget deficit. We reviewed the Christmas services.

In March, we discussed the upcoming APCM and made plans for a substantial giving review. We also discussed detailed safeguarding papers and were encouraged and thankful that our process and procedures continue to help keep us safe in this area.

In May, we welcomed Ann Powell and Kirsty Pringle onto the committee, following election at the May APCM. We reviewed the Terms of Reference for our sub-committees and updates on our finances, specifically giving review. We also began planning for the interregnum.

In July, we spent significant time discussing interregnum matters, specifically drafts of the parish profile as well as who would be the PCCs parish representatives for the new vicar interview and application process.

In September, we welcomed Kevin Metcalfe to the PCC. Kevin's role as a licenced lay worker grants Kevin PCC membership. The PCC held three meetings in

September. The first to agree much of the 'Section 11' items, the second was to formally approve the parish profile and representatives, and the third was our standard September meeting.

In November, we reviewed our budget for 2026, giving thanks for how God has generously provided for his church at St John's, through generous giving of St John's members. We also passed a resolution to continue to contribute our 'parish share' towards the ministry costs of three evangelical churches in the diocese.

All our meetings have begun with a Bible reading and reflection followed by a time to pray over the agenda.

We are extremely grateful to all members of the PCC who have faithfully served during this past year.

Stuart Hull (Churchwarden and interim Chair)

Electoral Roll

Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6th May 2026

The number enrolled as of 21st April, when the roll closed until after the 2026 APCM, is **182**.

The Roll has been on display at the back of church since 21st April 2026.

Paula Jones (Electoral Roll Officer)

May 2026

Treasurer's Annual Report

Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6th May 2026

Each year the Trustees (P.C.C.) are obliged to present a report of the activities of the Charity 1132016 known as the P.C.C. of St John's Wimborne otherwise known as The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Evangelist New Borough and Leigh, Wimborne.

The accounts have been independently examined by Stewardship and approved by the P.C.C.

Copies of the full report and Accounts are available from the Church Office.

The accounts reflect the financial costs and income associated with an active organisation providing support in many ways both spiritually and socially, individually and collectively to all who come into contact with its members in the building and outside.

Such activities include Global Action - supporting our global partners, Youth Work, Children's Work, Pre-School, Men's Breakfasts, Women's Breakfasts, Week-ends away, Craft evenings etc etc.

In our November meeting in 2025 the P.C.C. approved a budget of £441,913 income, and expenses of £479,632 - a predicted £37,719 deficit for 2026.

This may seem alarming at first sight, but we have been humbled in recent years that despite budgeting for a deficit the Lord through faithful members has supplied enough to

cover the expenses financially and through using our talents and gifts.

As an example, the budget figure for regular giving in the 12 months to 31st December 2025 was £297,996. The actual figure was £324,186. That has a direct effect on Gift-aid tax refund which was £10,866 higher than budget.

Parish Share and staff costs are our main expense items £363,321 (2025).

What is the effect on the Interregnum financially you may ask? Well, we are still paying our parish share via the Ephesian fund, supporting three parishes in the diocese with similar theological backgrounds and covering the cost to the diocese of our incumbent 'yet to be chosen'.

At the same time, we are being blessed through the faithful service of visiting preachers, lay members and Matthew Lee (Associate Minister).

Most funds are "general/unrestricted" as to their use. Some however can only be used for a specific purpose such as Pre-School Nursery Education Grant (NEG) funding and Global Action donations where the giving is specific to the Partner or to Global Action.

PRE-SCHOOL

Pre-School meets in the Church Hall and as mentioned above is funded by the NEG. When the Pre-School makes a surplus, it is able to contribute towards hall hire and upkeep/improvements.

GLOBAL ACTION

We are gradually changing the way that Global Action is funded so that the payments are made from the P.C.C. account rather than from individual members. The Global Action team is then able to allocate payments on a needs basis. This is a far more efficient and effective way of supporting our global action partners.

THANKS

The Finance Team; Many people are involved in one way or another enabling the church to operate smoothly

Volunteers: Fiona Wilkinson (Bookkeeper), Roland Green (Finance Assistant), Stuart Hull (Budget Preparation, professional accounting advice), Richard Phinn (Gift-Aid).

Staff: Paula Jones (and S&F Chair), Gillian Mannouch, Holly Clark, Stephen Cornick and Julian Wortley.

Those who give of their time and talents in Church Maintenance and of the properties we own.

All those who volunteer using both their skills and time.

This will be my last year as Treasurer, and I am thankful for all the help I have been given over the years (over 15 years!) which has made the role a joy and pleasure. Thanks especially to Gillian Mannouch and Paula Jones.

Thank you also to Tony Heywood and Trevor Wilkinson, my predecessors, whose examples I hope I have followed.

Paula Jones will take on the role of Treasurer after this meeting.

Stephen Cornick

St John's PCC, Wimborne

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Note	Unrestricted funds					Unrestricted funds				
	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:										
3	426,823	-	57,412	-	484,235	344,726	-	54,891	-	399,617
4	24,724	-	98,054	-	122,778	24,177	-	83,585	-	107,762
5	14,155	-	-	-	14,155	17,324	-	-	-	17,324
6	4,348	-	1,105	66	5,519	3,939	-	1,156	82	5,177
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total income and endowments	470,049	-	156,571	66	626,686	390,165	-	139,632	82	529,880
EXPENDITURE ON:										
7	404,070	8,054	173,144	-	585,268	451,106	8,054	141,952	-	601,112
Total Expenditure	404,070	8,054	173,144	-	585,268	451,106	8,054	141,952	-	601,112
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	(129)	(129)	-	-	-	72	72
Net income/(expenditure)	65,979	(8,054)	(16,573)	(63)	41,289	(60,941)	(8,054)	(2,320)	154	(71,160)
Transfers between funds	9,560	-	(9,560)	-	-	12,106	-	(12,106)	-	-
Net movement in funds	75,539	(8,054)	(26,133)	(63)	41,289	(48,835)	(8,054)	(14,426)	154	(71,160)
Reconciliation of funds:										
Total funds brought forward	171,154	695,225	440,406	6,620	1,313,405	219,988	703,279	454,832	6,466	1,384,565
Total funds carried forward	246,693	687,171	414,273	6,557	1,354,694	171,154	695,225	440,406	6,620	1,313,405

Standing & Finance Committee

Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6th May 2026

The Standing & Finance (S&F) Committee met six times during 2025 (January, March, May, July, September and November) to oversee the financial, buildings, staffing and governance matters of St John's Wimborne on behalf of the PCC. The following summarises the key areas of work undertaken during the year.

1. Finance

We praise God that the church's financial position strengthened considerably over the course of 2025:

- The Giving Review, launched early in the year, generated approximately £45k in one-off gifts and a recurring annual increase of around £15k, with congregation growth helping to offset the departure of some members.
- St John's recorded a surplus of £41,257 for the year ended 31 December 2025 (2024: deficit of £71,160). This represents a significant improvement on the prior year and reflects both increased income and careful management of expenditure in 2025.
- The integration of Global Action (GA) giving with general giving is ongoing, with some restricted gifts still being made.
- A new financial management system, Expense Plus, was approved and implemented, going live on 1 January 2026. This will significantly improve management reporting, gift-aid processing and budget monitoring.
- The 2024 year-end accounts were completed, examined by Stewardship and approved by the PCC.
- A Reserves Policy was reviewed, updated and approved, with a working capital reserve of £108k confirmed.
- A Fixed Assets policy threshold of £1,000 was agreed.
- The Parish Share for 2025 was met in full, and discussions with the diocese regarding the 2026 share and the use of the Ephesians fund are ongoing.
- A draft Budget for 2026 was prepared and presented to the PCC, with the 2025 surplus expected to partially cover the projected 2026 deficit.

2. Buildings & Facilities

Buildings and facilities matters were overseen throughout 2025, including roof surveys and repairs, fire safety improvements (notably a successful evacuation drill and a new fire exit at the South Porch), and ongoing

maintenance planning. Significant roof replacement costs are anticipated in the medium term. A full report is presented separately.

3. Staffing

- A strategic Staff Review was completed during 2025. The full report will be shared with the incoming Vicar, and any further recommendations will be considered in due course.
- Our Youth Worker moved to full-time employment and took up residence at 34 Churchill Road in August, sharing with Streetlight's Centre Manager. The property was refurbished and inspected ahead of their move-in.
- A Ministry Trainee post was approved and filled in September and is going very well. PCC approval was sought to include a full-year salary in the 2026 budget.
- Staff remuneration for 2026 was reviewed. Remuneration is set at or above the Real Living Wage, increasing by approximately 3.5% for most staff, with those already above this level receiving a 1.7% increase.

4. Governance & Policy

- S&F Terms of Reference were reviewed and formally approved.
- A suite of PCC policies was worked on throughout the year. Drafts have been (or will be) brought forward for approval. Annual policy reviews will be spread across the year going forward.
- A Financial Management Policy for Small Groups was drafted and consulted upon. It has been accepted by those groups it relates to.
- A Homeless Policy was drafted and brought to the PCC for approval.
- A third-party data breach affecting 19 individuals was managed in line with Church of England and diocesan procedures; all those affected were contacted.

5. Interregnum

The latter part of 2025 was shaped by the beginning of the interregnum. S&F has been actively involved in supporting the process:

- The Parish Profile was completed and presented to the PCC.
- The Vicarage was considered by the PCC, which was invited to make a recommendation to the diocese on its future.
- Line management arrangements for senior staff during the interregnum were agreed.
- The church expressed support for the Alliance campaign and agreed to write to the bishops in due course.

- The vacancy timetable has been shared with the church family via the Weekly News.

The committee is grateful for the hard work and commitment of all staff, volunteers and church members who have contributed to a year of considerable achievement and gives thanks to God for His faithfulness and provision throughout 2025.

Paula Jones (Chair, Standing & Finance Committee)

May 2026

Deanery Synod Report for 2025 – for APCM May 2026

Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6th May 2026

What is the Deanery Synod?

It is part of the way the Church of England's synodical government works, giving people at different organisational levels a chance to discuss key issues and to progress the church's ministry and mission in their local context.

What is the purpose of the Deanery Synod? What does it do?

The Deanery Synod, in theory, makes decisions at a deanery level (group of parishes). It acts as an intermediary between the parochial church councils of each parish and the Diocesan Synod, which (in theory) makes decisions for the whole diocese. Its priorities include Mission Action Planning.

What did Wimborne Deanery Synod do in 2025?

The lay and clergy members met three times (as is the usual practice) in different parishes for a variety of discussions. These have included some further work on, and finalisation of, the 5-year Deanery Action Plan. We discussed how to enable the sharing of resources and events, including creating Lead People on key areas:

- Deanery Facebook Group
- Prioritising Children & Young People
- Courageous Christian Leadership
- Creative Partnerships in Local Mission
- Creation Care
- Financing the Future
- Worship and Prayer

The Deanery Facebook page is for sharing events (e.g. Training, Grandparenting, Women's Day).

We also appreciated a very good presentation from Elizabeth Harvey, the new Diocesan Head of Finance. She explained that there were

policy changes away from selling houses to fund annual expenses and an increase in communications and transparency about how the money is spent.

In addition to regular coverage of Safeguarding, other topics included Leadership Training using CPAS courses, particularly for 'emerging leaders' (aged 25-40).

Currently the representatives from St John's are: Nick Elbourne, Jenny Harris, Gillian Mannouch and David Morgan.

Report from David Morgan

Global Action 2025 – for APCM May 2026

Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6th May 2026

Thank you to so many of you for your ongoing interest, prayer and financial support of St John's Global Action, and in particular of our Partners. They often ask me to pass on their appreciation of your prayer and financial support, and this is one of the few occasions when I can do so. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those who serve on our Global Action Team: Matt Lee, Eddie Curry, Rachel Green, Phil Jones, Jean Morgan, Jane Ough, Anne & Graham Powell. Roland Green has taken over the role of Treasurer; this role will reduce in the coming year as the Global Action account is merged into the church's general account.

During the year, we have greatly appreciated the participation of some Partners in the leading of our prayers in the services.

The Nelson family Laura is continuing her evangelistic ministry at Ternes Church (Paris suburb), which involves leading Bible studies, speaking and one-to-ones. In response to multiple requests, she is increasing her wider ministry amongst French evangelical churches. In addition, she has a key role with the '2 Timothy 2:2' initiative, training interns for church leadership; she also works with an evangelical publishing house.

Malcolm and Kerstin Gray We very much appreciated the Grays' ministry over our Global Action Weekend at the end of November. They are continuing their leadership roles for WEC UK, based in Coventry. Malcolm is also involved in global leadership activities for WEC, focussing on unreached people groups. Kerstin has been extending her pastoral care role by taking training and starting work as a spiritual director.

Sarah & John Gieske serve with SIL/Wycliffe in Senegal. John has a media consultancy and training role, and is working on several different language recordings of the Bible. Sarah is very much a full-time mum, home-schooling the children, and coping with an active toddler. Sarah also manages to handle communications for the team.

David & Janet Wilkinson continue to work with SIL/Wycliffe in Senegal. Janet is responsible for the finance work for the Senegal branch, while David has overall charge of the Senegal team, including hiring new team members to support the training centre and finance work. In addition, David works with other national directors across francophone Africa and beyond.

Ben & Jenny, Justin & Georgie continue to serve in the Middle East. Ben volunteers for a charity enabling pastors to receive biblical training; Jenny works with students and both seek opportunities to engage with their local church and neighbours. Justin continues with his counselling work with trauma victims; he and Georgie continue to meet needs in the refugee community and are exploring new initiatives.

Sarah Coleman (née Hopkins) has been working in South Africa for over six years, and married Gavin in 2024. With baby Noa, they have moved to a location up-country where they can both live and work. Sarah now has more limited scope for ministry and is focusing on meeting the need for equipping other Christian workers who work in violent communities.

StreetLight's ministry in Wimborne is flourishing with a new team of people, headed by James and ably assisted by Vicky. They have been sharing the vision around other local churches, encouraging them to support the workers and activities. There has been real interest in Bible storytelling sessions and a new youth club initiative. They are exploring wider groups focused on particular needs. Do drop in (Streetlight Centre, Stone Lane) and see for yourself – this is our only easy-to-visit Global Action Partner!

We continued our support of **Tearfund's** relief and development work worldwide through donations at Christmas and from our Global Action fund.

We have also continued to support **Carlile College** in Nairobi. We have financially supported two students by paying 50% of their fees: Gatwech and Elizabeth through 2025; in 2026, Gatwech completed his course and our support now goes to Amet.

Prayer We encourage all members of the church to actively support at least one of our Partners, by taking their newsletters and by praying for them. You can sign up [here](#). I know that many of you already take several. If you would like to know more about Global Action at St John's, please do contact me or another member of the team.

David Morgan david24morgan@gmail.com

PCC Youth & Children's Committee: Jayne Sharman

The Youth and Children's Committee meets three times a year to provide oversight and support to the children's and youth work at St John's. The day-to-day running of the work for most of the past year was undertaken by Kevin Metcalfe, Jeremy Long and Matt Lee however Jeremy Long has recently stepped down as Youth Worker. The main focus of the Youth and Children's work is to encourage discipleship in all our children and young people.

Sunday morning groups run from ages 0 - 17 years and comprise Creche, Scramblers, Adventurers, Core and Fuse. Fuse continue to meet on the first and third Sunday mornings each month and, on the alternate Sundays, the Fuse group are being encouraged to serve in the life of the church. We also have young people who attend Fuse on a Friday evening helping in our Sunday morning groups. Please pray that the young people serving in the church will grow in their faith and feel valued as part of the church family.

Midweek groups continue to run well. Tots and Toys meets on a Monday and the numbers attending has increased. Core continues to meet on a Thursday evening and regularly has around 30-35 young people attending (ages 10-13). Friday night Fuse has grown significantly in the last year going from a small group of approx. 12 young people to having 25-30 each week (ages 13-17). SOUL (16-21 year olds) has been meeting on a Tuesday evening and this group has also grown in the last year with many members of the group from non-church backgrounds and a hunger to read the bible. Members of SOUL are regularly attending the evening

service and some are also starting to come on a Sunday morning as well.

We continue to support St John's Pre-School where the numbers attending are good and the new staff members are settling in well. We also continue our strong link with St. John's First School where we teach through Godly play and lead services in the church for them at key points during the year.

The outreach events have been successful during the last year. GLOW was well attended and over 100 people came to Messy Christmas which had a different style which worked well. The Christmas and Easter youth services and parties have gone well and been fun and welcoming for non-church families. Please pray that our outreach events will enable non-church families to connect deeper into the life of the church.

Our Parents Network events have also continued once a term and they have been a great opportunity to support parents in our church family through shared experiences, discussions and prayer.

Please pray for Matt, Kev and Zach as they cover the childrens and youth work without Jeremy. Please pray for Jeremy as he seeks God's will for his next chapter. Finally please pray and give thanks for all the volunteers and helpers who give their time to encourage our children and youth people in discovering Jesus for themselves and growing in faith in Him.

Building Management Group

Fabric Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6th May 2026

Introduction

This report summarises the work and progress of the Building Management Group (BMG) at St John's Church over the period March 2025 to March 2026. The BMG has met regularly and diligently, making substantial progress across a wide range of building, safety, environmental and maintenance matters. The group's commitment and the dedication of its volunteer members are clearly evident throughout.

1. Fire Safety and Evacuation

Evacuation Planning

One of the most significant achievements of the year was the development and testing of a comprehensive fire evacuation plan. A special meeting in April 2025 brought together the full BMG alongside key church staff to produce a detailed framework covering roles, assembly points, fire marshal responsibilities, and equipment needs.

- A successful fire drill was conducted on 8 June 2025, receiving broadly positive feedback from approximately 20 participants.
- Four fire exits were identified, with consideration given to upgrading the South Porch exit.
- Assembly points were established: Point A on the car park grass area, and Point B at the rear of the Elim.
- BMG recommended annual fire drills going forward, and this was agreed.

Fire Alarm Improvements

Work has been ongoing to improve the fire alarm system. Quotes were obtained for a wireless upgrade system, and a faculty was obtained for an additional wired beacon above the vestry door. A further quote for a hard-wired system was requested for comparison. These improvements will ensure better audible coverage across all areas of the building.

Fire Door Safety

Door safety received close attention throughout the year. Stiff door-closers

that had caused doors to be propped open illegally were addressed, with a proposal for electronic control considered. New door closers were fitted in the kitchen corridor and toilet corridor. A finger guard was also installed on the atrium-to-small-lounge door, to help with safety of small fingers of the children's groups that meet there.

2. Roofs and Solar Panels

Roof maintenance has been a major focus for the BMG during this period.

Youth Lounge Roof

The Youth Lounge roof was identified as a priority after blistering and potential leaks were discovered. A thorough inspection was commissioned with a structural engineer and roofing consultant. A detailed Roof Repair Report was produced by Keith Loveless (October 2025), recommending two immediate phases of work:

- Phase 1 – Youth Lounge roof: additional insulation and full recovering.
- Phase 2 – North Aisle roof: replacement of damaged insulation and a new waterproof membrane.

A site meeting with the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) took place in January 2026, and a report is awaited to guide next steps.

The roofs sections which are still sound will be painted with light reflecting paint to reduce the heat and to prolong their life expectancy, this work is underway.

Solar Panels

The existing 12-year-old solar panel array was monitored throughout the year. Whilst output remained low, it was agreed that the panels should be reinstated following roof repairs with new inverters and that they should be self-supporting taking the weight and friction off the new flat roof, they will also be angled to maximise energy generation.

3. Creation Care and Environmental Stewardship

The BMG has maintained a strong and positive partnership with the Creation Care (CC) Team, reflecting St John's commitment to environmental responsibility.

- A wild garden area on the north side of the church has been preserved

deliberately, with notices to explain its purpose to visitors.

- Swift nesting boxes were proposed, PCC approval was given, and a List B faculty application was prepared. A bee box is also being considered.
- The church is engaged with the Church of England's Net Zero Carbon target by 2030, with ongoing discussions about future heating solutions when existing gas boilers reach end of life.
- LED lighting conversion is in progress throughout the church buildings.
- Keith had also met with the Diocesan Net Zero Carbon adviser to explore future energy solutions.

4. Church Properties

34 Churchill Road

Excellent progress was made in bringing this property into use. Following vacation by previous tenants, a thorough clean, repairs and a Saturday-sort-it session brought the property to a lettable standard. New tenants moved in during January 2026. Future work includes laying a concrete base for a shed and garden maintenance which has been started and is well underway.

6 Bourne Court

Materials have been obtained for protective treatment of the porch roofing felt, pending dry weather. A boundary issue with a neighbouring property has been noted and is being followed up.

The Vicarage

The vicarage is a diocesan property, but St John's maintains the grounds. A site meeting with the Diocese will be arranged to plan necessary improvements, including the provision of additional WCs, to make the property ready for occupation later in 2026.

5. Building Maintenance and Improvements

Interior Works

A wide range of interior improvements have been completed or are well underway:

- Dais modifications – completed, with new chipboard panels and improved structural support.
- Office roof space – refurbishment in its final stages, with insulation to

be ordered.

- Atrium roof lantern – inspected, cleaned and now no active leak found.
- Handrail fitted from atrium to conservatory for improved accessibility.
- Vestry key-safe overhauled with improved labelling.
- The central heating systems have been serviced by ‘Global Heating’ to reduce costs and get them all completed at one time before the onset of the colder months.
- Hall door repaired and now closing properly.
- Thermostat relocation in the Youth Lounge is in progress.
- Kitchen knife safe storage has been highlighted, and plans are in place to be implemented.
- Vestry leak investigated; gutter repair and tile repairs instructed.

Exterior Works

The exterior of the church has also received significant attention:

- Conservatory external timber repaired and redecorated across multiple Saturday-sort-it sessions.
- Porch ironwork and gates to be refurbished, with modifications to meet fire exit requirements.
- Electric front doors inspected and sensors adjusted by Voiseys for safer, gentler operation.
- Youth Lounge external doors renovated for better weatherproofing.
- Car park grass area: rolling proposed to address ruts, with a longer-term grid solution referred to Standing & Finance.

6. Health, Safety and Compliance

The BMG has maintained a strong focus on statutory compliance and the safety of all who use the building.

- PAT testing was completed in March 2025 using a more streamlined approach, with thanks recorded to Clive and Roland for their work.
- Ecclesiastical Insurance queries were answered satisfactorily: monthly fire safety checks confirmed as logged, TERRIERS check reported annually at the AGM, and the Health & Safety Policy reviewed annually.
- Preparation for emergency procedures (lockdown protocols) have been discussed and will be developed further, when the legislation is provided by the government under ‘Martin Law’.

7. Saturday Sort-It Volunteer Programme

The Saturday-sort-it programme has been an outstanding success, enabling a wide range of maintenance tasks to be completed by willing volunteers. The February 2026 session attracted 14 volunteers. These sessions have delivered tremendous value in conservatory decoration, rubbish removal, garden work, and general tidying across all church properties. The teams and people helping have been invaluable and it is great to have fellowship, build relationships and have fun working together. Many thanks to Keith for heading this up.

Conclusion

The Building Management Group has had an exceptionally productive year, through the dedication of its volunteers and the 'Maintenance to mission (Saturday Sort it) ', St John's Church has seen meaningful improvements to fire safety, building fabric, and environmental stewardship. The foundations have been well laid for a further year of progress, with several major projects ahead, particularly the roof repairs and solar panels.

The BMG expresses sincere thanks to all volunteers, contractors and church staff who have contributed to this work throughout the year.

As we come to celebrate 150 years of St Johns, we should celebrate Gods great provision and blessing we have in the buildings, we should reflect and rejoice in the care and maintenance that numerous people have lavished over the years and we should be looking as to how the buildings can be developed to help and provide the varied opportunities for our witness and mission to the people of Wimborne, this is our time and we all want 'Gods light' to shine brighter than ever and for people around us to discover a 'New Life' through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul Wareham, Chair

St John's Pre-School

Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6th May 2026

This report provides an overview of St John's Pre-School achievements and significant events from May 2025 to May 2026. It is intended for the APCM committee to highlight progress, milestones, and developments within our setting.



In September 2025, the Pre-School welcomed an Ofsted inspection, resulting in a **GOOD** overall rating. This achievement reflects the commitment and professionalism of our staff and the positive learning environment fostered for all children. This was my first Ofsted inspection since I became Manager, and it proved to be both a highly positive experience and a valuable learning opportunity. It highlighted all the hard work accomplished since I started the position in January 2025.

The Ofsted visit was a significant highlight during the year, with inspectors praising the Pre-School for providing a secure and safe environment for all children. They observed that the setting's policies and procedures were robust, ensuring the welfare and protection of pupils at all times. Ofsted noted that children felt at ease and confident, which supported their learning and development.

Inspectors were particularly impressed by the calibre of the practitioners working within the Pre-School. They remarked on the staff's extensive knowledge and expertise, highlighting how practitioners were well versed in early years education and demonstrated a genuine passion for nurturing children's growth. The team's ability to create engaging learning experiences enabled children to thrive and reach their potential, reinforcing the positive reputation of the setting.

The Pre-School hosted several successful music sessions led by Cathy Murray, which were enthusiastically received by children. These weekly music sessions have continued to enrich the curriculum, supporting children's creative and social development. This is a great example of EYPP expenditure and how we support children's cultural capital of giving them opportunities of experiences they may not normally have.

December 2025 saw the Christmas Nativity performance set a new record for attendance of family and friends, demonstrating strong community engagement and parental support.

During the end of last year, we said farewell to two valued members of staff; Andrea Long and Hannah Hardyman. Despite these departures, the team worked together to maintain high standards. January presented staffing challenges, requiring resilience and adaptability from the team. Staff maintained a positive attitude and ensured continuity of care for all pupils, demonstrating dedication in difficult circumstances.

Andrea Long's departure created a chance for staff development. Debs Lee is now deputy manager and has quickly proven herself as an excellent practitioner and strong support for Sarah.

During the Spring and Summer Terms, we were pleased to welcome two new members to our team: Becky, a Level 3 Practitioner, and Ruby, who has joined us as an Apprentice. Both Becky and Ruby have already made a positive impact within our Pre-School, demonstrating enthusiasm and a commitment to supporting the children's learning and development. Their contributions have further strengthened our team, and we look forward to seeing them continue to thrive in their roles as they become fully integrated into the setting.

In March, children attended the Easter Story event at Wimborne Minster, supported by staff and parents. This special visit provided



valuable educational and cultural experiences, strengthening links with the local community.

In addition, the Pre-School celebrated World Book Day by encouraging children and staff to dress up as their favourite storybook characters. Activities included shared reading sessions and creative projects inspired by classic and contemporary children's literature, fostering a love of reading and imagination among the children.

Children numbers have increased steadily over the year, resulting in enhanced NEG funding. This growth enables further improvements to resources and facilities, benefiting both current and future cohorts. We are already seeing an increase in our September numbers with lots of show rounds, enquiries and bookings being made.

The Pre-School successfully supported a pupil through an EHCP assessment, with positive outcomes anticipated for September. The team has worked diligently to ensure inclusive practice and tailored support for children with additional needs. Staff collaborated closely with a range of external professionals, including Speech and Language Therapists, Educational Psychologists, Social Care, and Dorset Best Start in Life Advisors. These partnerships have enabled comprehensive support for children and families, reinforcing our commitment to holistic development.

The provision for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) has brought valuable additional funding to the Pre-School. This funding is being utilised to enhance resources within the setting, ensuring that all children have access to a wider range of educational materials and tools. In addition, the increased funding allows for the introduction of new learning opportunities tailored to support the diverse needs of our pupils. The Pre-School is also able to engage external agencies to facilitate learning for all children. By booking outside specialists, we are broadening the scope of support and expertise available,

enabling every child to benefit from inclusive and enriching educational experiences.

Over the past year, the Pre-School has made significant progress in all areas, overcoming challenges and embracing new opportunities. The outlook remains positive, with continued growth, dedicated staff, and strong community connections supporting our vision for the future.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to St John's Church and the church family for their unwavering support of our Pre-School. Their encouragement and involvement have played a vital role in ensuring our setting remains the best it can be, nurturing both our staff and pupils.

The positivity within our staff team is evident, and our management structure continues to operate smoothly. Together, we are fostering a welcoming and supportive environment, enabling every child to thrive and grow.

Sarah, Debs, Clare, Chloe, Becky & Ruby

St John's Pre-School Team

Safeguarding Report to APCM 2026

Report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6th May 2026

As Safeguarding Officers we remain committed to making our church a safe and welcoming place for everyone.

There are no outstanding individual safeguarding issues to be reported.

We continue to monitor our progress as a church by reference to The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. We remain at Level 3 (the highest).

We have registered with the new provider managing Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) who are called "Thirty One: Eight". We have begun using their system for processing DBS checks on staff and volunteers will continue to familiarise ourselves with the new system and begin to migrate the details of all staff and volunteers.

The most significant issue currently being addressed across the whole Diocese is the uptake and recording of safeguarding training on a new Safeguarding Hub which has been launched to complement the Parish Dashboard and, after being piloted, has been brought into use by churches across the Diocese.

Unfortunately in August 2025 there was a significant data breach of the information system run by APCS, our previous DBS administrators. Nationally this affected a large number of volunteers in many organisations across the country including churches and those engaged in health, social care and education. This included nineteen volunteers in our own church. We followed guidelines provided by the Diocese to help affected individuals to guard against any potential malicious activity, and provided additional individual support where necessary.

On 16 November 2025 St John's joined with many churches nationwide in recognising Safeguarding Sunday, which it is anticipated will become an

annual event. It offers an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of safeguarding and about establishing a culture in our church where everyone can feel safe and welcomed.

In the meantime safer recruitment, Safeguarding training and DBS clearance processes continue to be a priority for all staff and volunteers in St John's. During 2026 we may be seeking to engage one or more additional volunteers to assist with the admin and recording of safeguarding activity.

Andrew Morris

Pat Loveless

Parish Safeguarding Officers

