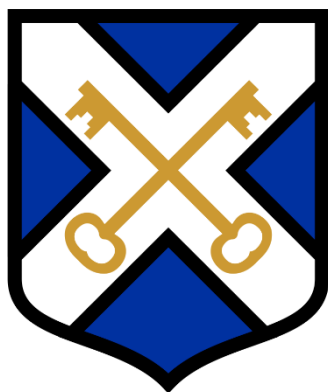


St Peter and St Andrew
Old Windsor



The Parish Church of
St Peter & St Andrew, Old Windsor

Parish Profile

July 2026

**Being with God, each other, and
the wider community**



We are a vibrant, living church for Old Windsor, welcoming all in faith, hope and love.

**We hope you will enjoy reading our Parish Profile and will find something
to inspire you to find out more!**

Message from the Interim Area Dean

I am delighted that you are reading this Profile for the vacancy at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Andrew, Old Windsor. I hope it will inspire your curiosity and excite you as you discern whether God might be calling you to this House for Duty role.

The Parish of Old Windsor is situated in the Southeast corner of the Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery, along the banks of the River Thames. Our Deanery includes both the towns of Maidenhead and Windsor in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, as well as the surrounding Berkshire villages of Old Windsor, Cookham, Hurley, Waltham St Lawrence and Bray. We enjoy and celebrate our mix of town and rural, as well as our mix of church tradition.

We have an active clergy Chapter which meets every six weeks or so across the Deanery to share lunch, fellowship and prayer-time together. We usually have a particular topic for discussion. Over recent months, this has taken the form of a “book club” which has proved popular.

Deanery Synod meets three times a year and we usually have a speaker. Recent topics have included Safeguarding, Young People’s Mental Health, Anna Chaplaincy and Discernment of Vocations. Deanery Synod meetings include reports from our Diocesan and General Synod reps.

After a period of prayerful consideration, the PCC and churchwardens of Old Windsor Parish Church have made the decision to seek a House for Duty priest for the parish, to make best use of their financial resources. There is much going on in this vibrant and happy parish church with a good team of gifted and enthusiastic volunteers, including an active LLM and dedicated churchwardens who have maintained a high level of engagement with the local community during the vacancy. There is much excitement about the plans to add a meeting room to the church and carry out other works of reordering in the church building. The project is substantially funded from the sale of a property owned by the PCC and there is a dedicated committee working towards bringing it to fruition.

Regular church life is well established and well resourced. There is a focus on growing the numbers of children and young people and the primary source of this potential growth is viewed as being the two village schools (a first school and a middle school), so it is hoped that the new House for Duty vicar will devote time to this recognised priority.

The churchwardens and PCC recognise that they will need to provide substantial support to enable their House for Duty vicar to flourish with more limited time available than they have previously enjoyed from their full time incumbent, but they are ready and able to rise to this challenge.

I hope you enjoy reading this Parish Profile. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Revd. Canon Sally Lodge

Interim Area Dean and Rector of the Parish of Central Windsor

Message from the Churchwardens

Our parish is a welcoming and active Christian community, rooted in prayer, worship and service. We value our tradition but are open to change and new ways of engaging with our congregation and the wider community. We are keen to continue developing worship that helps people of all ages to grow in faith.

During the vacancy, we have been grateful for the support of clergy, retired ministers and our Licensed Lay Minister (LLM) who have helped sustain worship and ministry. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) and congregation work well together and are committed to supporting our new vicar.

We are looking for a vicar who can give spiritual leadership, encourage growth in faith and help us build on the foundations already in place. We hope you will enjoy village life and help to nurture relationships between the church and community.

Lovaine Bunce

Mary Sibley

Churchwardens

Message from the Parish Council

The Parish Council values the central role of St Peter and St Andrew's Parish Church, Old Windsor in parish life and recognises the importance of strong, compassionate priestly leadership.

We look forward to welcoming a new parish vicar who will continue to nurture the spiritual life of the parish and build on the church's positive engagement with the wider community.

Jane Dawson

Chairman of the Parish Council, Old Windsor

In this Parish Profile

Who are we looking for?	5
<i>Your role</i>	5
<i>About you</i>	5
Our village schools	6
Where are we now?	7
<i>Our worship</i>	8
The Parish Church of St Peter and St Andrew	10
<i>The vicarage</i>	11
<i>Activities and events</i>	11
<i>Music and bells</i>	13
<i>Concerts</i>	14
Online presence	14
Finance	15
Quinquennial inspection	15
Reordering plans	16
The Parish of Old Windsor	17
<i>Local facilities</i>	18
<i>Other local and nearby attractions</i>	19
<i>Transport links</i>	20
<i>Schools in Windsor</i>	20
Safeguarding	21
The church team and PCC	21



The Church of St Peter and St Andrew serves the village of Old Windsor in Berkshire.



Who are we looking for?

We are looking for a vicar who will join us on the journey of growing the Kingdom of God in Old Windsor.

We have recently received agreement from the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) to undertake a reordering process as part of our mission to be with God, with each other, and with the wider community. There is a dedicated Reordering Committee and we are fortunate to have substantial funding towards this important project. As the last Christian church in the village, we believe that enhancing and adapting our building will enable us to better serve the people of Old Windsor through worship, hospitality, community life and missional outreach. More information can be found on page 16. It's a very exciting time for our church and Community!

As a House for Duty vicar, we do understand the limitations of this post and accept them. We will, of course, encourage and support you in your role with us.

Your role

- To discern where the Holy Spirit is at work and where new and fresh shoots are growing. With this in mind, we ask that you will inspire and lead us on the journey of growing the Kingdom of God in Old Windsor.
- To develop our work with children, young people and families as a priority, especially through St Peter's, our village church school; they are keen to further church / school collaboration in exciting ways.
- We offer a strong church team: we hope you will value, encourage and develop our God-given gifts and talents, so that our life of faith is deepened and the team is strengthened.

About you

We are looking for someone who:

- Is outward facing and keen to build good quality relationships.
- Is committed to ministry with children and young families, and who will value and encourage our older congregation.
- Can strengthen our team through recognising, enabling and developing the gifts and talents in others.
- Welcomes different styles of worship and expressions of faith.

Our village schools



There are two schools in the village forming part of the wider Windsor school system:

- **King's Court First School** - This is a small village community school taking pupils from reception to year 4 (age 4 to 9 years). Open-the-Book currently takes place there every Thursday morning.
- **St Peter's CofE Middle School** - This is an academy catering for pupils aged 9-13. St Peter's is a Church of England voluntary-aided school. We are currently forging greater links between the Parish Church and this school, with several exciting initiatives planned.

There are also several nursery and pre-school establishments within the village.

Where are we now?



The vacancy has occurred at a time with exciting potential for growth in our church as we look to find where the Holy Spirit is taking us, engage with the challenges of modern life and continue to move on from the hit caused to congregation numbers and morale during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Until 2023, we were a single parish with two church buildings: the Parish Church of St Peter and St Andrew and the Mission Church of St Luke, housed in a wooden building in the centre of the village.

The condition and continuing deterioration of the St Luke's building meant it was no longer viable as either a worship centre or a social venue. It was decommissioned and sold in 2023; the proceeds have been invested and 'ring-fenced' for the sole purpose of assisting in the development and improvement of the Parish Church.

Alongside this, the parish is looking to grow and establish itself in the wider community - taking the love of God out to others. The Parish Church is now the last remaining active place of worship in Old Windsor, following the closure of the Methodist and Catholic churches, and then of the St Luke's Mission Church.

The children's church groups, which flourished before the pandemic, have declined in number as the lock-downs coincided with several young families re-locating away from the area and others moving to other places of worship, or just to other forms of activity.

As developing children's groups is one of the wider church's priorities, monthly Bubble Church meetings - aimed at families with younger children - were inaugurated in affiliation with another church and ran successfully during 2025.

Bubble Church has now been replaced by our monthly “JaM Children’s Church” (Jesus and Me) with bible stories, games and activities aimed at children in the age range of 3 - 8 years and their families.

This new initiative began in late 2025 and has already proved successful with steady growth in attendance numbers. These services are usually lay-led from within our own team.

Our church style has a ‘friendly formality’ about it, described by a newcomer to the congregation as “proper without being pompous”. Clergy and the choir wear formal robes for Eucharistic services and we enjoy music of a good standard for a parish church. However, we are not fussy or stuffy about the ceremonial - we know what is important about worship and what is not, and we are willing to experiment with forms of liturgy outside the normal pattern.



Our worship

Regular services

Service	When run	Notes
Holy Communion	Every Sunday at 11am	Traditional sung Eucharist with robed choir
‘Connect’	Third Wednesday of the month	Informal service at a parishioner’s home
Holy Communion	Third Sunday of the month at 8am	Said service - Book of Common Prayer (BCP)
Holy Communion	Every Friday	At local care home
JaM Church	Second Sunday of the month at 9:30am	Children’s service



Additional and special services

Service	When run	Notes
Choral celebration	Major festivals such as the beginning of Advent, Epiphany or Lent	Evensong, Compline or Eucharist with robed choir
Carol service	Advent and Christmas	Based on "9 Lessons and Carols"
Christingle	Christmas Eve	Candlelit children's service
Midnight in Bethlehem	Christmas Eve	Traditional Christmas Eucharist with robed choir
Easter services	Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Day	Traditional Easter services
Remembrance	Remembrance Sunday	Formal remembrance with local uniformed groups
Memorial	November - coinciding with All Souls	Remembrance for lost loved ones
Pets service	Usually summer	Furry friends welcome
End-of-year service	Summer	For pupils of King's Court and St Peter's schools

We also offer baptism, wedding, funeral and memorial services.

Most services are followed by informal refreshments - tea, coffee and cake / biscuits, or sometimes refreshments of a slightly more substantial nature!

Attendance at services varies, but is typically in the range of 25 - 40 people.

The Parish Church of St Peter and St Andrew

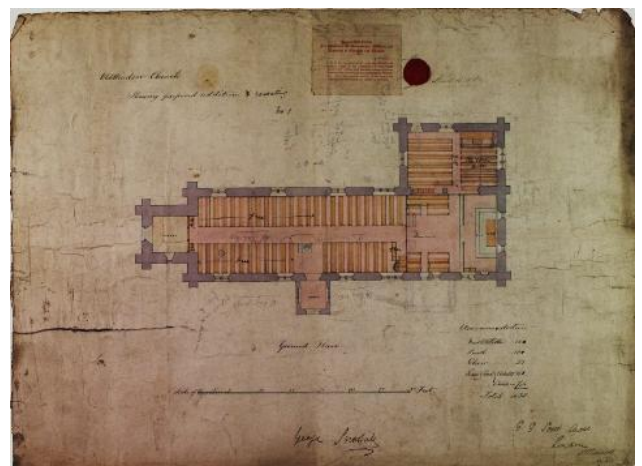


Our beautiful 800-year-old, grade II* listed church is in a secluded location within a conservation area close to the River Thames. Most of the modern village is situated about half a mile to the West.

Archaeological and documentary evidence shows that the site of the church is part of a substantial Saxon settlement.

The church was founded in the year 1220 after its predecessor was destroyed during a French invasion in 1216. The previous church, probably founded in the 10th century, was adjacent to a royal hunting lodge or palace, used by both Saxon and Norman kings. Its dedication is thought to have been just to St Andrew at first, with St Peter added by King Edward the Confessor.

In 1863, the church was refurbished, under the direction of Sir George Gilbert Scott. It was refaced with flint, the porch replaced, the vestry added (designated as a chapel at that point), and the original tower cupola was replaced with a steeple which houses a peal of eight bells. The church today consists mainly of 1225 walls and windows with 1863/64 internal furnishings.



The building has a maximum seating capacity of about 200, mostly in traditional pews. It has a small basic functioning kitchenette area and a single toilet facility. There are plans to improve these as part of an ongoing reordering and improvement project.

The vicarage



The vicarage, built in the 1930s, is around 5 minutes' walk from the church. It is a detached house with five bedrooms and large reception rooms, plus an office space. There is a garage, off-road parking for at least six cars and a large open-plan garden.

The vicarage has recently been fully redecorated.

Activities and events



Activities that support worship

The church is used by both King's Court and St Peter's schools for end of term seasonal services and for a 'leavers service' each year. These services are led by staff and pupils of the schools, supported by clergy or lay leaders.

A group of parishioners together with members of the local Methodist community offer an "Open the Book" assembly at King's Court School on a weekly basis.

Home communion is taken to several housebound parishioners regularly by our LLM.

Activities that offer opportunities for outreach

Saturday 'coffee mornings' at the village recreation ground have recently been expanded to the provision of bacon rolls and now attract significant numbers of patrons from local and visiting football clubs, who play at the ground.

This serves to bring the church into the local community and raises funds.

For some, this is their only contact with our church, so it is an important way of outreach into the community.

A popular quiz night is organised four or five times a year and is held at a pub in the centre of the village. It has enabled us to reach people with no other connections to the church and to raise the profile of the church in the community. It also raises funds.



A donation point for food items and toiletries is established at the church; the items are then passed to the Windsor Foodshare scheme.

Several members of our parish are regular volunteers in the Foodshare team.

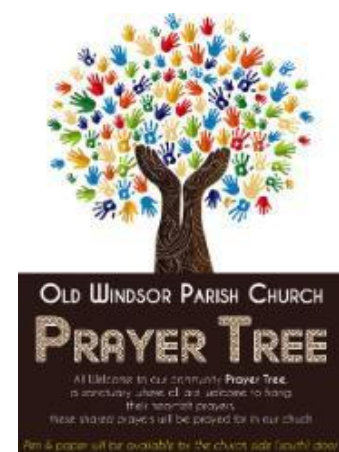


A Christmas tree festival is held in the church to mark the beginning of Advent each year. In 2025, 35 Christmas trees were brought into church by local groups, organisations and families. This included the Parish Council, a local dental surgery, art group, WI and uniformed groups. Over 300 visitors came over its two weekends. For some of them it was their first-ever visit to the church.



A recent initiative, the Prayer Tree, offers people the opportunity to ask for someone to be remembered in prayer by attaching a card to a large tree in the churchyard.

Cards remain on the tree as long-term reminders of that person.



Music and bells

Music forms a big part of our worship here in Old Windsor.

The choir



The choir currently stands at 10 members, across the four 'voices', plus occasional visiting singers. Under the direction of Lovaine Bunce, and with a weekly practice session on Friday evenings, they provide music for the Communion service every Sunday, plus other services and for the church's special festivals.

Their repertoire ranges from traditional hymns and psalms to more modern worship songs, and from 'West-gallery' anthems and motets to works by contemporary composers.

The organ



The organ is situated to the North of the chancel and choir stalls. It is an historic pipe instrument, made by J W Walker & Sons of Devizes, Wiltshire and installed in 1864.



Despite its age, the organ is fully usable as a musical instrument and is played weekly.

The church does not currently have a full-time organist, but is well-served by two part-time organists and by other musicians who provide accompaniments and incidental music for services.

The piano

The church is privileged to have use of a Broadwood grand piano, which is on permanent loan.

This is used not only to accompany music during worship, but also for occasional piano recitals and other musical activities.

Various members of the wider church team contribute music using their instruments ranging from recorders, through to ukuleles, saxophone, clarinet and trumpet.



The bells



The church has a ground floor ring of eight bells, with an enthusiastic band of ringers, led by tower captain, Malcolm Bunce. We ring each week for divine service, plus weddings, some funerals and events of national importance.

We also welcome visiting ringers from far and wide.

Practice night is Tuesday and a warm welcome is assured for anyone who may be interested in learning to ring!



Concerts

Usually run as fundraising events, the church hosts visiting singers and musicians on a small number of occasions each year - usually during the 'warmer' months.

These concerts are well supported and span multiple musical genres including folk-singing, gospel-choirs, ukulele bands, plus individual instrumental recitals.



Online presence

Website

The church website is currently under construction, but can be found at: <https://www.oldwindsorchurch.org.uk/>.

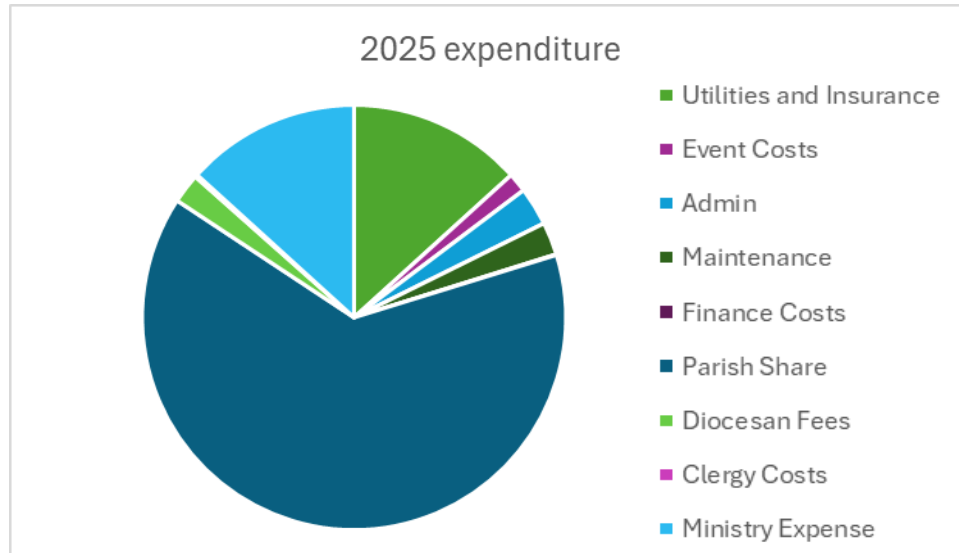
Facebook

The church's Facebook page is at: <https://www.facebook.com/oldwindsorchurch>.

This is regularly updated to provide information about activities and events and is shared to the Old Windsor village Facebook page, "We love Old Windsor".

Finance

In 2025, we paid a Parish Share of just over £36,000. This resulted in our accounts being in deficit for the year by almost £13,000. The graphic below shows the distribution of expenses by category in 2025.



The loss of a full time stipendiary post will see our Parish Share reduce significantly and the Parish expects to be in surplus in 2026 and beyond.

The net assets of the PCC at the end of 2025 were £36,000.

The parish also has a significant fund which is ring-fenced for the reordering of the Parish Church and provision of new facilities. This fund arose from the sale of a church building and is held separate to PCC funds.

PCC finances are managed by a new team, consisting of a Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, both with many years' experience of both church and corporate accounting.

Quinquennial inspection

A quinquennial inspection was carried out in July 2026.

The inspection report summary stated: "Overall, the condition of the church is very good and is clearly well maintained. There is very little work of significance required".

Reordering plans

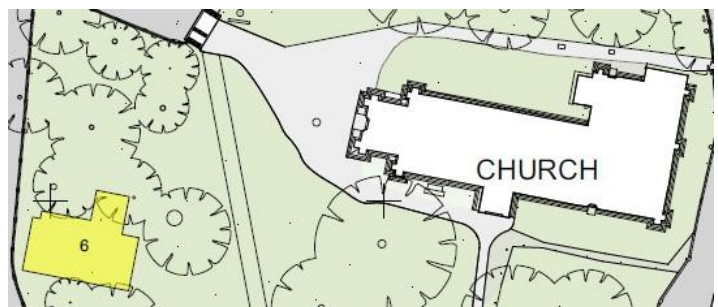
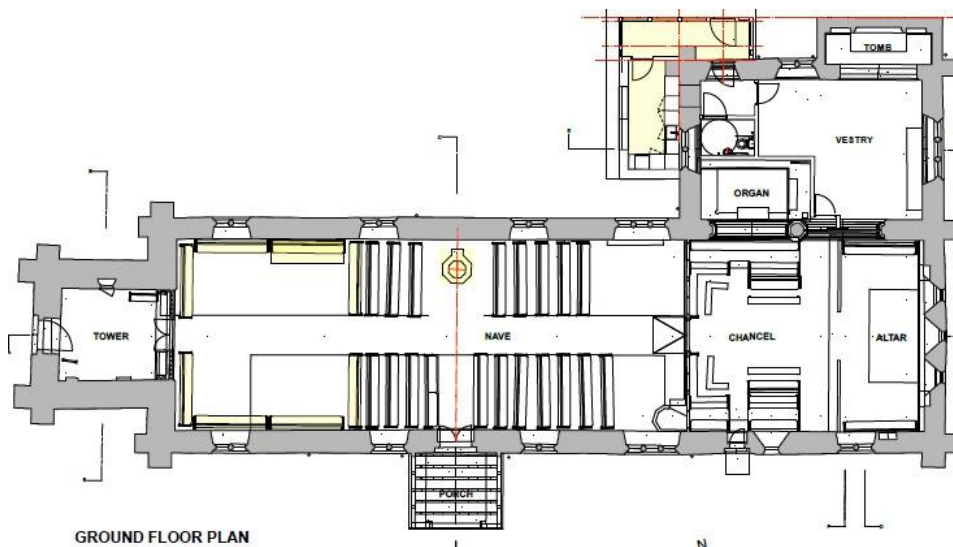
The funds from the sale of the St Luke's Mission Church have been reserved for improvement works aimed at supporting the church's growth in the village.

To date, improvements have been made to the lighting installation and to church security (new locks and CCTV), plus small changes to aid accessibility.

Wider plans include:

- Refurbishment of toilet and kitchen facilities.
- Improvements to the heating system.
- The possibility of developing existing architectural footprints within the churchyard to provide facilities and storage space.
- The possibility of constructing a separate building in the North of the churchyard to serve as a small church hall. It is planned to have a connecting corridor between the main church and the new building. The DAC met in early May and have sent their recommendations to us.

All plans will be subject to formal approvals, given the listed status of the church and its presence within a conservation area.



The Parish of Old Windsor



The ancient parish is bounded on the East side by the River Thames, to the West by Windsor Great Park, to the South by the boundary with the Guildford Diocese at Runnymede, and to the North by Datchet and New Windsor.

The Parish Church is located near the River Thames, in a conservation area with only a few nearby dwellings, about half a mile from the village's commercial centre.

The Old Windsor Parish is characterised as rural although there are parts that are fairly densely populated with 20th century housing developments, as well as older and higher density Victorian terraced and semi-detached properties. The majority of residents are owner-occupiers, but there are two small estates of social housing, including flats, and a mobile home park. Extensive further residential development is very unlikely as much of the area is in a flood plain which places restrictions on what the local planning authorities will permit.

The majority of housing is within the main village with a number of properties in Windsor Great Park on Crown Estate land. The population is around 5000 including about 250 residents in the Great Park.

The village has many young families living alongside an older population. The mix creates a diverse and dynamic community.

Overall, though, the population is older than the national average for a community of this size - according to the last census for which full data is available the age profile is:

Age band	under 5 years	5 - 18 years	19 - 65 years	over 65 years
Percentage of population	5.4%	13.8%	58.8%	22%

In the most recent census, 69% of residents identified themselves as Christian. The church electoral role is currently 87.

Deprivation indices overall are low, but individual pockets of need exist. There are five retirement communities, including the Penny Royal alms houses which have links to the church, sheltered accommodation and a sizeable care home.

The incumbent and churchwardens are trustees of the alms houses.

Old Windsor has a good community spirit with many voluntary organisations, including uniformed groups (Scouts, Brownies, etc), sports teams, amateur dramatics, and arts and crafts groups.

The village holds an annual carnival, combined with a donkey derby, funfair and 'garden fete' on the recreation ground. The church has run a stall at this in recent years.

Local facilities



A wide range of facilities serve the local community, including:

- A medical centre and GP surgery.
- Two dental surgeries.
- An elderly people's day centre, currently run by Age Concern and used by groups from both within and outside the parish.
- A range of shops, including food shops and a dispensing pharmacy.
- Several pubs, take-away food outlets and restaurants of varying styles and cuisines.
- Hairdresser and barber shops.
- A motor vehicle service and MOT centre.
- A petrol station and mini-market shop.
- Old Windsor Recreation ground. This public area of around 10 acres is at the village centre and accommodates children's play areas, football pitches, and general purpose open space. It is also equipped with toilets and a pavilion. We run coffee mornings here on Saturdays, which encourages relationships with the local football club and its visitors.
- The Old Windsor Club. Established for over 130 years, this family-friendly members' club offers live events, a licensed bar and social space.
- The Old Windsor Memorial Hall. This was built as a war memorial. The hall, with a seating capacity of around 180, is offered for the use of those living in Old Windsor for meetings, educational events, drama, and recreation - both public-access and private.



Other local and nearby attractions

Windsor Great Park



Part of the Windsor Crown Estate, Windsor Great Park is approximately 15,800 acres of ancient landscape, with forests, grasslands, gardens, lakes and historical monuments.

It is home to rare wildlife and national collections of plants and trees. Large areas are open to the public, but it is also an operational estate.

A National Trust, publicly-accessible area lying next to the River Thames, Runnymede is an immediate neighbour to Old Windsor. It encompasses the site where King John signed the Magna Carta in 1215. As well as a memorial to Magna Carta, the site is home to the RAF War Memorial, the John F Kennedy Memorial, 'The Jurors' bronze chairs and 'The Writ in Water' architectural artwork.

Windsor Castle

This royal residence which was founded by William the Conqueror is the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world. It is clearly visible from Old Windsor and - as a tourist attraction - is open to visitors throughout the year.



LEGOLAND

LEGOLAND probably needs no introduction - it's a family-orientated theme park now boasting more than 55 rides and attractions, plus refreshment and souvenir outlets and hotels.

Transport links

- Rail - from Datchet (approximately 1¾ miles away) - trains to Windsor, Staines and London
- From Egham (approximately 3½ miles away) - trains to Staines, London, Reading and beyond.
- Bus - from Old Windsor - bus routes go to Staines and onwards to Heathrow Airport; to Windsor and onwards to Slough and Maidenhead.
- Road links - the A308 main road bisects Old Windsor; it leads to the M25 to the Southwest and the M4 to the Northeast - both only around four miles away.
- Heathrow airport - the UK's largest airport is less than 10 miles away by road.

Schools in Windsor

- The Windsor Boys' School - a secondary academy for boys in the 13 to 18 age range.
- Windsor Girls' School - a secondary academy for girls in the 13 to 18 age range.

Church links

There are links between schools and the church, including the 'Open the Book' group who are regular and welcome visitors to King's Court School.

The vicar is usually a member of the governing body of St Peter's Middle School.

Safeguarding

Under the leadership of our safeguarding officer and the PCC, we adhere to all relevant legislation, guidance and good practice in the protection of all who may be or become vulnerable.

We are committed to:

- The safeguarding, protection, care, nurture, and respectful pastoral ministry of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- The provision of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' to the dangers of abuse.

In adhering to our safeguarding policy, we:

- Carefully select and train all those with responsibility within the church, making use of all necessary due-diligence checks.
- Will respond without delay to all complaints made that suggest a person may have been harmed - cooperating with authority bodies in any investigations, whilst maintaining a clear reporting structure within the parish.
- Will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with him or her an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- Will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- Will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a vulnerable person.

The church team and PCC

- Peter Warner - PCC chairman, voluntary church verger.
- Lovaine Bunce - churchwarden, PCC member, director of music.
- Mary Sibley - churchwarden, PCC member, deanery synod representative.
- Lorna Ridley - treasurer, PCC member.
- Blair Coutts - assistant treasurer, PCC member.
- Lynne Thorogood - LLM, PCC member, safeguarding officer.
- Neil Pielou - PCC secretary.
- Rosalind Pielou - PCC minutes secretary.
- Julie Coutts - PCC member.
- Richard Norton - PCC member.
- Joanna Wattis - PCC member.
- Joanna Butcher - safeguarding officer.
- (vacancy) - deanery synod representative x1.