

Adopted: November 2019

Updated: December 2020

Updated: October 2021

Next review: October 2022

Owner: Vicki Butchers

Policy Statement on Safeguarding Children, Young people and adults at risk

Introduction

The church recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of all children and young people under the age of 18 (regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability) as set out in The Children Act 1989 and 2004, *Safe from Harm* (HM Government 1994) and *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (HM Government 2010).

The church recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of adults at risk. There is no single definition for an adult at risk, so for our policy we are using the following simple definition taken from thirtyone:eight formerly CCPAS (Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service) which is also used by The Baptist Union of Great Britain in their Safe to Belong Policy.

“Any adult aged 18 or over who due to disability, mental function, illness or traumatic circumstances may not be able to take care or protect themselves against the risk of significant harm, abuse, bullying, harassment, mistreatment or exploitation.”

As members of this church, we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of all children and young people associated with the church and will pray for them regularly.

In pursuit of this we commit ourselves to the following policies and to the development of procedures to ensure their implementation.

In pursuit of this we commit ourselves to the following: -

1. As members of this church we commit ourselves to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults at risk ensuring their well-being in the life of this church.
2. It is the responsibility of each of us to prevent the physical, emotional, sexual, financial and spiritual abuse of children, young people and adults at risk and report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
3. We are dedicated in the pastoral care and support of those who have experienced abuse.
4. We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with children, young people and adults at risk.
5. The church is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake this work.

6. The church adopts The Hub Beeding Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding Children and Young People based on the safeguarding guidelines produced by the Baptist Union of Great Britain.
7. The church adopts The Hub Beeding Policy and Procedures for Safeguarding Adults at Risk based on safeguarding guidelines produced by the Baptist Union of Great Britain.
8. Each person who works with children, young people and adults at risk agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this church.

Responsible people

The church has appointed *Maeve Whitchurch* as the Safeguarding Trustee to:

- oversee and monitor implementation of the policy and procedures on behalf of the church's charity trustees

The church has appointed *Vicki Butchers* as the Designated Person for Safeguarding to:

- advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and young people
- advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of Adults at Risk
- take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Vicki Butchers 07503 155273

Signed.....Safeguarding Trustee

A copy of the policy statement will be displayed permanently on the noticeboard in The Hub welcome area.