

POLICY STATEMENT

on

Safeguarding Children and Young People in the Church

In fulfilling its vision the church:

- Has a programme of activities for children and young people
- Welcomes children and young people into the life of our community

The church recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of all children and young People under the age of 18 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).

As members of this church we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of all the 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 development of procedures to ensure their implementation.

Prevention and reporting of abuse

It is the duty of each church member and members of the wider church family to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children and young people. It is the duty of all to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and young people and to report any abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected. The church will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

Safe recruitment, support and supervision of workers

The church will exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children and young people, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to ensure the safeguarding of children and young people.

Respecting children and young people

The church will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and young people so that each one is shown the respect that is due to them.

Safe working practices

The church is committed to providing a safe environment for activities with children and young people and will adopt ways of working with them that ensure their safety and well-being.

A safe community

The church is committed to the prevention of bullying of children and young people. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of anyone who may pose a risk to children and young people within the church community is managed appropriately.

Responsible people

The church recognises Barbara Maciver as the Safeguarding Liaison to the Trustees to:

- oversee and monitor implementation of the policy and procedures on behalf of the church.

The church has appointed Rachel Mitchell as the Designated Person for Safeguarding to:

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

Policy and Procedures

A copy of the policy statement will be displayed permanently on the noticeboards in the church and the Warriner Hall.

Every worker with children and young people whether paid or voluntary will be given a full copy of the policy and procedures and will be required to abide by them.

A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member of the church or any other person associated with the church.

The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed annually.

The policy statement will be read at the Annual Church Meeting together with a report on the outcome of the annual review.

Signed.....Mike Tydeman.....

Signed.....Barbara Maciver.....

Date.....15/01/15.....