



## Policy Statement on Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church

(referred to as "the church" in the Policy Statement)

The vision statement of the church "serving the community".

In fulfilling this vision:

- we welcome children and adults at risk into our community
- make our premises available to organisations working with children and adults at risk.

The church recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of adults at risk and all young people under the age of 18 (regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability). We are dedicated in the pastoral care and support of those who have experienced abuse.

As members of this church we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all 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.

### **Prevention and reporting of abuse**

It is the duty of each church member to prevent the physical, sexual, emotional, financial and spiritual abuse and neglect of children and adults at risk, to report any such 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 or adults at risk, whether paid or volunteer. The church is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake this work.

### **Respecting children and adults at risk**

The church will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and adults at risk so that all are 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 adults at risk and will adopt ways of working with them that promote their safety and well-being.

### **A safe community**

The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any who may pose a risk to children and adults at risk in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

### **Policy and Procedures**

It is impossible in a policy such as this to cover every scenario and 'what if'.

- Further guidance will be taken by the Safeguarding Team from Safe to Grow and Safe to Belong (2015) - Safeguarding adults at risk (BU guidelines on Safeguarding). Further advice and guidance from the BU, and other agencies will be taken if and when necessary.
- Safeguarding Team: Designated Person for Safeguarding Libby Brown; deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding Dermott Davison; Safeguarding Trustee Luke Dowding; Deputy Safeguarding Trustee Nyaueth Riam.
- A copy of the policy statement will be displayed permanently on the notice board in the foyer and church office and on the church website.
- Each worker with children and adults at risk whether paid or voluntary will be given a full copy of the policy and procedures and will be required to follow 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 will be made available for reading at the AGM.

Policy Statement accepted at Church Meeting – November 10 2019

Signed .....Church Secretary