

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

The vision statement of the church: Provoking faith in the heart of London. 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 sound procedures to ensure we implement our policy well

**Prevention and reporting of abuse**

It is the duty of each church member to prevent the abuse of children and adults at risk, and the duty of each church member to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and adults at risk. Any abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected will be reported in accordance with our procedures. The church will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

**Safer 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. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safekeeping of children and adults at risk

**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 children and adults are shown the respect that is due to them.

**Safer working practices**

The church is committed to providing an environment that is as safe as possible for children and adults at risk, and will adopt ways of working with them that promote their safety and well-being.

**A safer community**

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

**Responsible people:**

The church has appointed the following individuals to form part of the church safeguarding team:

- **Safeguarding Trustee** Udoka Maya Okonkwo They will raise the profile of safeguarding within the church and oversee and monitor implementation of the policy and procedures on behalf of the church's charity trustees. Contact: [udoka96@gmail.com](mailto:udoka96@gmail.com),
- **Deputy Safeguarding Trustee;** Nigel Redford Contact: [nigel@bloomsbury.org.uk](mailto:nigel@bloomsbury.org.uk)
- **Designated Person for Safeguarding** Libby Brown  
They will advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk and take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.  
Contact: [libby@bloomsbury.org.uk](mailto:libby@bloomsbury.org.uk)
- **Deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding:** Dermott Davison  
They will assist the Designated Person in helping the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk. and deputise for the Designated Person in their absence.  
Contact: [dermott@bloomsbury.org.uk](mailto:dermott@bloomsbury.org.uk)
- Our church minister is also an important part of the Church Safeguarding Team. Where possible, the Church Safeguarding Team will work together if and when issues arise. However, each person has a responsibility to report allegations of abuse as soon as they are raised.

**Policy and Procedures**

- The Safeguarding team will take further guidance from the Baptist Union safeguarding guidelines and other agencies if and when necessary.
- Each worker with children and/or adults at risk will be given a full copy of the safeguarding policy and procedures and will be asked to sign to confirm that they will follow them.
- A copy of the policy statement will be displayed permanently on the notice board in the foyer and on the church website.

A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member or any other person associated with the church. The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed every six months for Deacons' meetings and any necessary revisions adopted into the policy and implemented through our procedures. The policy will be summarised at the AGM together with a report on the outcomes of the reviews. This Policy Statement accepted at Church Meeting October 2024.....