



Safeguarding Policy Statement

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Leadership Safeguarding Commitment

All too often we read in the news of churches and charities being embroiled in claims of abuse, either of children/young people or of adults at risk. It is a reminder to us that we have both a moral and a legal responsibility to ensure the safety of those we work with. The Leadership of the church take safeguarding seriously, and this short statement outlines how we go about it.

The Leadership endorse and follow all national and local safeguarding legislation and procedures.

The Leadership endeavour to ensure that an atmosphere of open communication is engendered whereby children/young people and adults at risk (i) will feel comfortable in approaching any of the Leaders for assistance or guidance; and (ii) are provided with information on where to get help and advice in relation to abuse, discrimination, bullying or any other matter where they have a concern.

The Leadership are committed to (i) working with statutory agencies as appropriate; and (ii) offering pastoral care and support to any of Salway Evangelical Church's members or contacts who have been affected by abuse.

The Leadership will:

- Ensure that the building complies with relevant Health and Safety, Equal Opportunity and Disability Discrimination legislation.
- Maintain a register of workers whose designated role is to work with children, young people or adults at risk.
- Ensure that suitable procedures are in place for the recruitment of workers to roles to which the Safeguarding Policy applies.
- Ensure that all workers who have regular contact with children, young people or adults at risk are DBS-checked.
- Ensure that all workers receive Safeguarding training on a regular basis.
- Ensure that the Safeguarding Policy and its attendant guidance is correctly implemented.
- Ensure that procedures are in place for (i) identifying adults at risk; (ii) agreeing care plans; (iii) recording incidents, actions and discussions involving, or pertaining to, the safeguarding of individual adults at risk.

- Ensure that those who engage with children, young people or adults at risk are suitably supported and protected.
- Ensure that procedures are in place for (i) identifying any in the church who may be a risk to the welfare of others; (ii) agreeing measures to ensure safety for all.
- Ensure that the wider church is regularly informed about safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Appoint and train safeguarding co-ordinators and support them in their role.
- Receive, and respond to as appropriate, specific safeguarding concerns or incidents.
- Ensure that the Safeguarding Policy and its implementation and effectiveness are reviewed annually.

There are a number of things we would like the church to be aware of with regard to Safeguarding:

1. Safeguarding is a whole-church responsibility. This means that if any one of us has a safeguarding concern, we must take action.
2. We have a safeguarding policy in place, and it covers the safeguarding of both children/young people and adults at risk. An adult at risk is (as defined in government documentation) anyone over the age of 18 years who is in receipt of or in need of certain services such as: health care treatment; personal care because of age, illness or disability; or some other formal arrangement.
3. If you have any concerns about a child or adult at risk in the church, do please contact our Safeguarding Co-ordinator (Jenny Mumford) or our Deputy Safeguarding Co-ordinator (Paul Watkins), or any member of the Leadership Team.
4. In the event of a safeguarding concern, we have contact with, and will work with, a number of local and national agencies such as Redbridge Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub, Redbridge Adult Social Services, the police, and Thirtyone:eight (formally known as the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service, CCPAS)
5. Regular Training is provided for all our workers, both paid and voluntary, and all workers have been provided with a copy of our Safeguarding Policy.

The pastoral care of the church is the responsibility of the elders, and in particular the pastor. The pastoral team usually comprises 4-6 members, of whom the pastor is one, and meets each month. New members are invited to join by the team after consultation with the elders. The Pastoral Team has a specific Statement and guidelines on Safeguarding that form part of the Safeguarding Policy & Handbook.

Adoption of the policy

This policy was agreed by the leadership and will be reviewed at least every 3 years on: 1st July

Signed by: *Jenny Mumford* Position: Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Signed by: *Paul Watkins* Position: Deputy Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Date: 21st April 2022