

Policy Statement on Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults at Risk

Chesterfield Baptist Church

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



Our Vision is to be:

- A growing church
- A church full of people of all ages
- An equipping and sending church

In fulfilling this vision the church:

- Welcomes children, young people and adults at risk into the life of our community.
- Arranges activities specifically for children and young people.
- Makes our premises available to organisations working with children, young people and adults at risk.

The church recognises its responsibilities in safeguarding all children, young people and adults at risk, regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability.

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 this policy 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 and each member of the wider church family to prevent the abuse of children, young people and adults at risk, and the duty of all to respond to concerns about the well-being of children, young people 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.

Safe recruitment, support and supervision of workers

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

Respecting children, young people and adults at risk

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

Safe working practices

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

A safe community

The church is committed to the prevention of bullying. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any individuals 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 **Laura Brown** as the Safeguarding Deacon (Trustee) to:

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

The church has appointed **Laura Brown** as Designated Person for Safeguarding and **Marcia Carter** as an additional Designated Person to:

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

Policy and Procedures

A copy of this policy statement will be displayed permanently on the notice boards inside the main upstairs and downstairs entrances, and on the church's website.

Each worker with children, young people and/or adults at risk 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, the parents or carers of any child or young person associated with 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 annually at the church's annual general meeting, together with a report on the outcome of the annual review.

Read and agreed at the AGM on 27th March 2019

Signed on behalf of the church:

Blyth Harrison (Secretary)