Kislingbury & Upton Community Church

Safeguarding Policy Statement

The vision/purpose of the church is to be a developing and vibrant church for all ages and stages of life. Our logo of a tree by a river reflects our desire to grow and see increasing numbers of people blossom and flourish in life and faith.

In fulfilling this vision/purpose the church;

- Welcomes children and adults at risk into the life of our community
- Has a programme of activities with children and adults at risk
- Shares our premises with organizations working with children and adults at risk

The church recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of all children and adults at risk regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability. (As set out in Government Safeguarding act of 2010).

As members of this church we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of all 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 to the development of 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 physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children and adults at risk. It is the duty of all to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and adults at risk 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 adults at risk, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safeguarding 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 they are shown the respect that is due to them. Each volunteer will be given the code of conduct once the necessary checks have been completed. A copy is displayed on the notice board alongside the policy.

Safe Working Practices
The church is committed to the prevention of bullying of children and adults at risk. The church is also aware that this includes online forums and electronic communication. The church will seek to ensure the behaviour of any who may pose a risk to children and young people in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

E – Safety
Any photographs and images posted on the church's website and face book pages should be appropriate, reviewed by the leadership team.
Faces of children and will be pixelated, unless consent has been given by the parent or guardian. Parental consent will be reviewed annually.

Responsible People
The church has appointed Louisa Russell as the Safeguarding Trustee to oversee and monitor the implementation of the policy and procedures on behalf of the church's charity trustees.

The church has appointed Hazel Humphris as the Designated Person for Safeguarding to:

- Advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk.
- Take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Any acting Minister is also an important part of the church safeguarding team, and would be informed if there was any safeguarding issue raised so could organise and co-ordinate pastoral care for all involved, but not provide all the care themselves.

Policy and Procedures
A copy of this policy statement will be displayed permanently on the notice board in the school room at the back of the church building at Kislingbury, alongside a Code of Conduct poster explaining conduct for workers and reporting procedures. The policy is also available to view on the church website.

Each worker with children and adults at risk, whether paid or voluntary will have access to the full copy of the policy and procedures, via the website, or in a hard copy by request, 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 from the church or any other person associated with the church.

Any personal information that is known to the Church is protected by The Church Privacy Policy, in line with Data Protection legislation Laws implemented in May 2018.

The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed annually.
The policy statement will be read annually at the church annual general meeting together with a report on the outcome of the annual review.

This policy will be reviewed regularly and revised as necessary.