

POLICY STATEMENT
on
Safeguarding Children and Young People

Walsworth Road Baptist Church
(Referred to as "the church" in the Policy Statement)

Walsworth Road Baptist Church
Walsworth Road
Hitchin
Herts SG4 9SP

Contact Details for the Safeguarding Team

Designated Person for Safeguarding

Name Sandra Williams
Contact 07790 348563

Safeguarding Trustee

Name Amanda Maylin
Contact 07799 905997

Other Members

Name Rev Andrew Henton Pusey
Contact 01462 420681

Name Diana Seller
Contact 01438 352130

Regional Baptist Minister

Name Rev Stephen Copson
Contact 01462 442548

Churches' Agency for Safeguarding

Name www.churchsafe.org.uk
Contact 020 7467 5216

POLICY STATEMENT

The vision/purpose of the church is to work in our local community to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In fulfilling this vision/purpose the church

- has a programme of activities with children and young people
- welcomes children and young people into the life of our community
- makes our premises available to organisations working with children and young people

The church recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of all children and young people under the age of 18 (regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability) as set out in The Children Act 1989 and 2004, *Safe from Harm* (HM Government 1994) and *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (HM Government 2010) [or *Working Together under the Children Act* (Welsh Assembly Government 2006)].

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 their implementation.

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 young people and the duty of all to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and young people and to report any child 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; appointment, support and supervision of workers

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

Safe Behaviour; respecting children and young people

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

Safe Practices; ways of working

The church is committed to providing a safe environment for activities with children and young people and will adopt ways of working with children and young people that promote their safety and well-being.

Behaviour Policy; a safe community

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

Responsible people

The church has appointed *Amanda Maylin* as the *Safeguarding Trustee* to:

- oversee and monitor implementation of the policy and procedures on behalf of the church's charity trustees

The church has appointed *Sandra Williams* as the *Designated Person for Safeguarding* to:

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

Policy and procedures

A copy of the policy statement will be displayed permanently on the noticeboard in the *Richard Johnson Room* and on the noticeboard *outside the Lower Hall*

Each worker with children and young people whether paid or voluntary will be given a full copy of the policy and any relevant 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 from the church or any other person associated with the church.

The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed at least annually.

The policy statement will be circulated annually at the church meeting in March together with a report on the outcome of the annual review.

Dated: 16th March 2017

Review: March 2018

Signed:

Name / Position: Rev A Henton Pusey / Minister