

SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

Clarence Park Baptist Church's vision:

'We seek to bring people to Jesus, and together grow in our relationship with God and each other as we serve the community'

In fulfilling this vision we:

- Welcome children and adults at risk into the life of our community
- Run activities for children and adults at risk
- Make our premises available to organisations working with children and adults at risk

Our safeguarding responsibilities

The church recognises its responsibilities in safeguarding all children and adults at risk, regardless of gender, ethnicity, ability, age and sexual orientation.

As members of this church we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of everyone 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 to help prevent the abuse of children and adults at risk, and the duty of each church member to respond to concerns about their well-being. 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 and adults at risk, whether paid or voluntary. 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 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 and exploitation. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any individuals who may pose a risk to children, adults at risk and anyone in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

Safeguarding contact points within our church

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

TORI HARPER, Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS)

Tori 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.

Phone number: 07793 537270. Email address: tori.harper@cpbc.co.uk

KAYE COOKE, Safeguarding Trustee

Kaye will raise the profile of safeguarding within the church and oversee and monitor the implementation of the safeguarding policy and procedures on behalf of the church trustees, ensuring everyone receives Excellence in Safeguarding training to the right level. Kaye will also act as a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) verifier.

Phone number: 07792 093117 Email address: kaye.cooke@cpbc.co.uk

Our church minister, STEVE CHRISTIAN, is also an important part of the Church Safeguarding Team. Where possible, the church Safeguarding Team will work together if, and when, issues arise. Steve will also act as a DBS verifier.

Each person within our church community has a responsibility to report allegations of abuse as soon as they are raised.

(Further definitions of these roles can be found in Appendix 4 – Safeguarding Roles and Responsibilities)