

SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT FOR SOUTH OXHEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Our vision

The vision statement of South Oxhey Baptist Church is as follows:

We aim to be a welcoming community with Jesus Christ at the centre who

Love God

Love one another

Love the lost

We believe that:

People matter to God

People need Jesus Christ

People can change

In fulfilling this vision, we:

- Welcome all children and adults including the vulnerable into the life of our community
- Run activities for all children and adults including those who are vulnerable
- Make our premises available to organisations working with children and adults including those who are vulnerable

Our safeguarding responsibilities

The church recognises its responsibilities in safeguarding all children, young people and adults, 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 to help prevent the abuse of all children and adults including the vulnerable, and the duty of each church member to respond to concerns about the well-being of all children and adults. 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, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safekeeping of all children and adults.

- **Respecting children and adults**

The church will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and adults so that all children and adults 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 all children and adults including the vulnerable 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. 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.

Safeguarding contact points within our church

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

NAME:	Mrs. Linda Gillen	Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS)
She will advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and adults including the vulnerable and take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.		
Home Phone number: 020 8421 3413 Mobile: 07842215379		
Email address: lrgillen57@gmail.com		
NAME:	Mrs. Sue Luff	Second Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS)
She will advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and adults including the vulnerable and take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.		
Home Phone number: 01923 468845 Mobile: 07779684542		
Email address: sue.luff@ntlworld.com		
NAME:	Mrs. Linda Leaver	Deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding (DDPS)
She will assist in the safeguarding of vulnerable adults when a female presence is required.		
Home Phone number: 020 8421 1542 Mobile: 07395004547		
Email address: Leaverhome@aol.com		
NAME:	Mr. Deryck Macdonald-Taylor	Deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding (DDPS)
He will assist in the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.		
Home Phone number: 020 8386 8553 Mobile: 07749879607		
Email address: demdtaylor@gmail.com		
NAME:	Mr. Copeland Beckles	..Safeguarding Trustee
He 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.		
Mobile: 07714925499		
Email Address: CandCreodings <clevelandandcopelandrecordings@hotmail.co.uk>		

Our church minister would also play an important part in the Church Safeguarding Team. However, the position is currently vacant. Where possible, the Church Safeguarding Team will work together if and when issues arise. **However, each person has a responsibility to report allegations of abuse as soon as they are raised.**

Further definitions of these roles can be found in the BUGB publications 'Safe to Grow' (2011) & 'Safe to Belong' (2015).

Putting our policy into practice

- A copy of the safeguarding policy statement will be displayed permanently on the church notice board, church office, back hall and youth room. It is also available on our church website.
- Each worker with children and/or adults will be given access to the safeguarding policy and procedures and will be asked to sign to confirm that they will follow them.
- A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member of, or other person associated with the church and can also be viewed on the church's website.
- The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed annually, and any necessary revisions will be adopted in the policy and implemented through our procedures.
- The policy statement will be read annually at the church AGM, together with a report on the outcome of the annual safeguarding review.

July, 2021