



## **Safeguarding Policy updated June 2019**

### **APPENDIX - 4**

#### **Trustees of Connect Church UK Safeguarding Statement**

The Trustees of Connect Church UK recognise the importance of its ministry and work with children and young people and adults in need of protection and their responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

We are committed to creating and enabling a healthy culture in order to minimise any coercion and control within our church.

The following statement was agreed by the Trustees on Sunday 23 June 2019.

This place of worship is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults with care and support needs and ensuring their well-being.

Specifically:

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual,

emotional abuse and neglect of children and young people (those under 18 years of

age) and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.

- We believe every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that

children we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are

suffering harm.

- All children and young people have the right to be treated with respect, to be listened

to and to be protected from all forms of abuse.

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual,

psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of adults who have care

and support needs and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.

- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of adults who find themselves victims of forced marriage or modern slavery and will ensure all our policies and procedures

reflect this.

- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of

Connect Church UK unless they pose a risk to the safety of those we serve.

- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of all those

who will work with children and adults with care and support needs.

- We believe in the necessity of creating a healthy culture in our church where the value

of all people is recognised and challenges are responded to appropriately.

### **We are committed to:**

- Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children and adults with care and support needs and good practice recommendations.

- Respecting the rights of children as described in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Implementing the requirements of legislation in regard to people with disabilities.

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- Ensuring that workers (paid and voluntary) adhere to the agreed procedures of our safeguarding policy.
- Keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Following any denominational or organisational guidelines in relation to safeguarding

children and adults in need of protection.

- Supporting the safeguarding co-ordinator/s in their work and in any action they may

need to take in order to protect children/adults with care and support needs.

- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the

guidelines established by Connect Church UK.

- Supporting parents and families.
- Nurturing, protecting and safeguarding of children and young people.
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring and providing supervision to all those

who undertake this work.

- Supporting all in Connect Church UK affected by abuse.
- Adopting and following the 'Safe and Secure' safeguarding standards developed by

Thirtyone:Eight.

**We recognise:**

- Birmingham City Council's Children's Services (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Birmingham City Council's Adult Social Care (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about an adult with care and support needs.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Where working outside of the UK, concerns will be reported to the appropriate agencies in the country in which we operate, and their procedures followed, and in addition we will report concerns to our agency's headquarters.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

**We will review this statement and our policy and procedures annually.**

If you have any concerns for a child or adult with care and support needs then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding co-ordinators for this place of worship.

**Louison Ricketts** Safeguarding Coordinator

**Beverley Walters** Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from the administration office.