

# **The Memorial Community Church**

**Seeks to create a safe environment**

**In which children**

**And young People**

**Are respected,**

**Encouraged**

**And may grow**

**Without fear of harm.**

### **In seeking to fulfil this vision the church**

- Welcomes children and young people and makes our buildings and premises available to organisations working with children and young people.
- Commits ourselves to nurture and safeguard all the children and young people who share in worship, activities and common life.
- Requires other groups who use our buildings to have their own safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Seeks to make our buildings safe and welcoming for children and young people and be especially mindful of this as they are refurbished.
- Work in Partnership with the Swift Centre that has its own safeguarding policy and procedure.

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).

### **Prevention and reporting of abuse and responding to concern**

Everyone is responsible for preventing children and young people from suffering spiritual, physical, sexual or emotional abuse and to raise any concerns about the well being of a child and report any child abuse that is disclosed, discovered or suspected with the child protection officers of the Church. We shall offer full co-operation to any statutory investigation of suspected abuse.

## **Safe recruitment, support and supervision**

The church will exercise proper care when recruiting and appointing people as volunteers or employees to work with children and young people and offer support and supervision that enables them to safeguard the children and young people in their care.

## **Attitudes, behaviour and good practice**

Children and young people are entitled to respect at all times. We are committed to nurturing and encouraging attitudes and behaviour that demonstrate this respect and to develop and encourage codes of good practice that reflect this too.

We are committed to preventing bullying of among children and young people and will seek to address this directly if does occur.

## **Responsible people**

The church has appointed Julia Dexter as the Named person for Safeguarding – child protection officer and \_\_\_\_\_ as deputy to

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

The church has appointed the following people as responsible adults whom anyone may speak about the well being of a child or young person including their own well being and with a disclosure, complaint or suspicion of abuse can be shared.

**Policy and procedures** A copy of the policy statement will be displayed in the church and the church's website. Everyone responsible for the oversight of children will be expected to be familiar with the requirements of the Safeguarding policy and procedures. The policy and procedures will be review by the deacon's every year and the church meeting will be invited to renew their commitment to safeguarding every year.

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