



Safeguarding Policy

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Introduction and Organisational Commitment to Safeguarding

Thank you for taking the time to read this Safeguarding Policy. The policy is intended to shape the way that we think and act in relation to supporting those most vulnerable around us. Whether you are a children's worker, pastoral carer for the elderly, a church leader, departmental head or simply attending an Elim church, we would like you to be familiar with the contents of this policy.

The Elim National Leadership Team acknowledges that safeguarding the vulnerable in our churches, activities and within the communities in which we work, both here and overseas is of paramount importance and reflects the nature of Jesus Christ.

It is therefore our intention to ensure that safeguarding is fully supported and maintained through the development of policies and procedures that are accessible and understood by all those that have a legitimate interest in the welfare of our children, young people and vulnerable adults. Our formal activities will be operated in line with this policy and support at a regional and national level will always be available to ensure effective, sensitive and robust implementation.

We believe that safeguarding is everyone's business and that it is underpinned by scripture as a command to "love one another as I have loved you". None of us are therefore exempt from understanding this as a way of expressing our faith and values.

This policy and its supporting guidance represent the National Leadership Team's commitment to safeguarding. Within it you will find our adopted method of practice when working with and supporting children and vulnerable adults, whether formally or informally through the life of the church from ministerial training (see appendix 5) to church-based activities and international mission (see appendix 4). We commit to making it available to whoever requests it and to making our commitment to it publicly visible wherever possible. We also endorse the Safeguarding Statement contained at appendix 1 for use in your individual churches and within your various activities.

The policy and procedures have been divided into five sections covering all 10 Safeguarding Standards developed by the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS), which should be used in all settings with children, young people and vulnerable adults. This policy is not exhaustive and we would encourage you to refer to 'Safe & Secure' the CCPAS Safeguarding Manual available to all CCPAS members for more detailed information.



John Glass
General Superintendent
On behalf of the National Leadership Team

'Safeguarding is the process of protecting children and vulnerable adults from abuse or neglect, preventing impairment of their health and development, and ensuring they are living and growing in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care that enables them to have optimum life chances towards and throughout adulthood'

(adapted from 'Working Together to Safeguard Children', 2010).

The Safeguarding Policy: Section 1

Details of your place of worship/organisation

Name of Place of Worship / Organisation: ELIM CHRISTIAN CENTRE

Address: 93 Axe Street,
Barking, Essex IG11 7LZ

Tel No: 0208 591 2323 Email address: office@elimchristiancentre.org.uk

Charity Number: 251549 (in England & Wales), SC037754 (in Scotland) and CH272\RMG (in Guernsey) *

Regulators details: Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS)

Insurance Company: Congregational & General Insurance

The following is a brief description of Elim's work and the type of activities we are involved in which may include children or vulnerable adults:

As a denomination Elim is seeking to build churches in the UK and across the world consisting of a rich diversity of cultures that are open to people of all nationalities, ages and backgrounds. Our churches meet together to worship God and to care for one another whilst also seeking to reach out to people in their immediate community, the wider area and across the world. We do this through an extensive variety of activities which may include among other things Sunday services, small groups, educational programmes, medical aid, alleviation of poverty and activities for the elderly, vulnerable adults, young people and children. As part of our mission we also have departments who seek to prepare and equip people for ministry in the local church, the workplace and for overseas mission.

- Applies to Elim Foursquare Gospel Alliance members

Our commitment to Safeguarding

As the Leadership[†], we recognise the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults. We acknowledge that children, young people and vulnerable adults can be the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect.

We accept the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant of Human Rights, which states that everyone is entitled to “all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status”. We also concur with the Convention on the Rights of the Child which states that children should be able to develop their full potential, free from hunger and want, neglect and abuse. They have a right to be protected from “all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s), or any other person who has care of the child.”

As a Leadership we have therefore adopted the procedures set out in this safeguarding policy in accordance with statutory guidance. We are committed to build constructive links with statutory and voluntary agencies involved in safeguarding.

The policy and appendices are based on the ten ‘**Safe and Secure**’ safeguarding standards published by the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) and have been prepared in line with the Elim National Leadership Team’s commitment to Safeguarding.

The Leadership undertakes to:

- endorse and follow all national and local safeguarding legislation and procedures, in addition to the international conventions outlined above.
- provide on-going safeguarding training for all its workers and will regularly review the operational guidelines attached.
- ensure that the premises meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and all other relevant legislation, and that it is welcoming and inclusive.
- support the Safeguarding Coordinator(s) in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children and vulnerable adults.
- file a copy of the policy and practice guidelines with Elim’s National Safeguarding Coordinator, CCPAS and the local authority, which is: LONDON BOROUGH OF BARKING & DAGENHAM
- file a copy of any amendments subsequently published in the same manner.
- not to allow the document to be copied by other organisations.

†Throughout this policy document, ‘Leadership’ refers to any body of individuals with overall responsibility for the church or organisation.

The Safeguarding Policy: Section 2



Recognising and responding appropriately to an allegation or suspicion of abuse

UNDERSTANDING ABUSE & NEGLECT

Defining child abuse or abuse against a vulnerable adult is a difficult and complex issue. A person may abuse by inflicting harm, or failing to prevent harm. Children and adults in need of protection may be abused within a family, an institution or a community setting. Very often the abuser is known or in a trusted relationship with the child or vulnerable adult.

In order to safeguard those in our places of worship and organisations we adhere to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and have as our starting point as a definition of abuse, Article 19 which states:

1. Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child.

2. Such protective measures should, as appropriate, include effective procedures for the establishment of social programmes to provide necessary support for the child and for those who have the care of the child, as well as for other forms of prevention and for identification, reporting, referral, investigation, treatment and follow-up of instances of child maltreatment described heretofore, and, as appropriate, for judicial involvement.

Article 19, UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Also for adults the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights with particular reference to Article 5 which states:

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 5, UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights

NB. Detailed definitions of abuse are included at appendix 3 of this policy.

Safeguarding awareness

The Leadership is committed to on-going safeguarding training and development opportunities for all workers, developing a culture of awareness of safeguarding issues to help protect everyone. All our workers will receive induction training and undertake appropriate safeguarding training on a regular basis, which should cover signs and symptoms of abuse and how to respond as a minimum.

The Leadership will also ensure that children and vulnerable adults are provided with information on where to get help and advice in relation to abuse, discrimination, bullying or any other matter where they have a concern.

RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE

Under no circumstances should a worker carry out their own investigation into an allegation or suspicion of abuse. Follow procedures as below:

- The person in receipt of allegations or suspicions of abuse should report concerns as soon as possible to:

(Name) SOPHIA CHINYAMA

(Position) Safeguarding Coordinator

(Contact Details) 07876547588

who is nominated by the Leadership to act on their behalf in dealing with the allegation or suspicion of neglect or abuse, including referring the matter on to the statutory authorities.

- In the absence of the Safeguarding Co-ordinator or, if the suspicions in any way involve the Safeguarding Co-ordinator, then the report should be made to:

(Name) NYARAI MAKONI

(Position) Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator

(Contact Details) 07886 088653

if the suspicions implicate both the Safeguarding Co-ordinator and the Deputy, then the report should be made in the first instance to:

The Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS,) PO Box 133, Swanley, Kent, BR8 7UQ.
Telephone: 0845 120 4550. Alternatively contact your local Social Services or the Police.

- Where the concern is about a child the Safeguarding Co-ordinator should contact Children's Social Services. Where the concern is regarding an adult in need of protection, contact Adult Social Services or take advice from CCPAS as above.

The local **Children's Social Services** office telephone number (office hours) is 0208 227 3852.

The out of hours emergency number is 0208 227 6646.

The local **Adult Social Services** office telephone number (office hours) is 0208 227 2915.

The out of hours emergency number is 0208 594 8356.

The Police Child Protection Team telephone number is 0208 345 2927 / 2954.

- Where required the Safeguarding Co-ordinator should then immediately inform strategic personnel within the denomination as follows:

(Name) DAVE CAMPBELL

(Regional Leader) METROPOLITAN REGION

(Contact Details) 01727 846080 / 07887991138 email: dc@elimmetro.com

(Name) SARAH BALE

(National Safeguarding Coordinator) ELIM INTERNATIONAL OFFICES

(Contact Details) 07814 783855

The National Safeguarding Coordinator will then immediately inform the organisations' insurance company.

- Suspicions must not be discussed with anyone other than those nominated above. A written record of the concerns should be made in accordance with these procedures and kept in a secure place.
- Whilst allegations or suspicions of abuse will normally be reported to the Safeguarding Co-ordinator, the absence of the Safeguarding Co-ordinator or Deputy should not delay referral to Social Services, the Police or taking advice from CCPAS.
- The Leadership will support the Safeguarding Co-ordinator/Deputy in their role, and accept that any information they may have in their possession will be shared in a strictly limited way on a need to know basis.
- It is, of course, the right of any individual as a citizen to make a direct referral to the safeguarding agencies or seek advice from CCPAS, although the Leadership hope that members of the place of worship / organisation will use this procedure. If, however, the individual with the concern feels that the Safeguarding Co-ordinator/Deputy has not responded appropriately, or where they have a disagreement with the Safeguarding Co-ordinator(s) as to the appropriateness of a referral they are free to contact an outside agency direct. We hope by making this statement that the Leadership demonstrate its commitment to effective safeguarding and the protection of all those who are vulnerable.

The role of the safeguarding co-ordinator/ deputy is to collate and clarify the precise details of the allegation or suspicion and pass this information on to statutory agencies who have a legal duty to investigate. It is not the role of the Safeguarding Coordinator to investigate allegations and concerns.

Detailed procedures where there is a concern about a child:

ALLEGATIONS OF PHYSICAL INJURY, NEGLECT OR EMOTIONAL ABUSE

If a child has a physical injury, a symptom of neglect or where there are concerns about emotional abuse, the Safeguarding Co-ordinator/Deputy will:

- Contact Children's Social Services (or CCPAS) for advice in cases of deliberate injury, if concerned about a child's safety or if a child is afraid to return home.
- Not tell the parents or carers unless advised to do so, having contacted Children's Social Services.
- Seek medical help if needed urgently, informing the doctor of any suspicions.
- For lesser concerns, (e.g. poor parenting), encourage parent/carer to seek help, but not if this places the child at risk of significant harm.
- Where the parent/carer is unwilling to seek help, offer to accompany them. In cases of real concern, if they still fail to act, contact Children's Social Services direct for advice.
- Seek and follow advice given by CCPAS (who will confirm their advice in writing) if unsure whether or not to refer a case to Children's Social Services.

ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

In the event of allegations or suspicions of sexual abuse, the Safeguarding Co-ordinator/Deputy will:

- Contact the Children's Social Services Department Duty Social Worker for children and families or Police Child Protection Team direct. They will NOT speak to the parent/carer or anyone else.
- Seek and follow the advice given by CCPAS if, for any reason they are unsure whether or not to contact Children's Social Services/Police. CCPAS will confirm its advice in writing for future reference.

Detailed procedures where there is a concern about a vulnerable adult:

SUSPICIONS OR ALLEGATIONS OF PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE

If a vulnerable adult has a physical injury or symptom of sexual abuse the Safeguarding Co-ordinator/Deputy will:

- Discuss any concerns with the individual themselves giving due regard to their autonomy, privacy and rights to lead an independent life.
- If the vulnerable adult is in immediate danger or has sustained a serious injury contact the Emergency Services, informing them of any suspicions.
- For advice contact the Adult Social Care Vulnerable Adults Team who have responsibility under Section 47 of the NHS and Community Care Act 1990 and government guidance, 'No Secrets', to investigate allegations of abuse. Alternatively CCPAS can be contacted for advice.

Detailed procedure where there is an allegation against a person who works with children:

ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AGAINST A PERSON WHO WORKS WITH CHILDREN

If an accusation is made against a worker (whether a volunteer or paid member of staff) whilst following the procedure outlined above, the Safeguarding Co-ordinator will without delay inform:

- the National Safeguarding Coordinator (and in the National Safeguarding Coordinator's absence the Elim Churches Administrator at Head Office);
- the local Children's Social Services (following the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) procedures) in regards to the suspension of the worker, and discuss
- also making a referral to a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) as follows:

(Name) _____ ASSESSMENT TEAM _____

(Contact Details) _____ 0208 724 8859 _____

NB. There may also be a requirement under law to make a referral to the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) who hold the lists of people barred from working with children and vulnerable adults – this will require discussion with the LADO (please note that LADO's exist only in England – other nations should use the usual channels of communication with children's services or their equivalent).



The Safeguarding Policy: Section 3

Prevention

Safer Recruitment

Having in place a range of mechanisms and understood practices surrounding the recruitment of staff and volunteers is an essential element in our safeguarding arrangements. Safer recruitment practices will assist us in ensuring that we have the opportunity to prevent those we would not want working with children and vulnerable adults from doing so at the earliest point.

The Leadership will ensure all workers will be appointed, trained, supported and supervised in accordance with government guidance on safe recruitment. This includes ensuring that:

- There is a written role description / person specification for the post
- Those applying have completed a standard application form and a self declaration form
- Those short listed have ALL been interviewed
- Roles and attitudes regarding safeguarding have been discussed at interview
- Written references have been obtained for ALL candidates, and followed up verbally where appropriate
- A criminal records bureau (CRB) disclosure is completed (we will comply with Code of Practice requirements concerning the fair treatment of applicants and the handling of information) prior to the successful candidate commences employment
- Qualifications where relevant have been verified
- A suitable induction training programme (including safeguarding) is provided for the successful applicant
- The successful applicant completes a probationary period
- The applicant has been given a copy of this safeguarding policy and knows how to report concerns.

Safer recruitment practices should be used regardless of the setting or activity where workers are working with either children or vulnerable adults. In addition, the same principles and practices should be adopted for workers undertaking international missions (see Appendix 4) and for prospective entrants to vocational/ministerial courses being provided by Regents Theological College (see Appendix 5).



'Help...I want to recruit workers safely' CCPAS booklet

'Recruiting Safely: helping to keep children and young people safe' (CWDC, 2009).

Management of Workers – Codes of Conduct

As Leadership we are committed to supporting all workers and ensuring they receive support and supervision. All workers will be issued with a code of conduct towards children, young people and vulnerable adults. The Leadership undertakes to follow the principles found within the 'Abuse Of Trust' guidance issued by the Home Office and it is therefore unacceptable for those in a position of trust to engage in any behaviour which might allow a sexual relationship to develop for as long as the relationship of trust continues.

A code of conduct towards children, young people and vulnerable adults should be drawn up which all workers agree to follow. It is important there is a culture of dignity and respect towards those being cared for. This can be achieved by workers:

- understanding the organisation's safeguarding policy and good working practice
- listening to children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- respecting boundaries and privacy of those being cared for
- knowing how to deal with issues of discipline in line within the organisation's code of conduct
- developing an awareness of disability issues as well as issues of equality and inclusion



Elim Code of Conduct for Staff Working With Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults.
'Caring for the Young & Vulnerable' (Home Office, 1999).

Management of Workers – Training and Supervision

All workers, paid or voluntary, should be provided with appropriate training and given the opportunity to develop their skills as well as feel supported and valued by the organisation for which they work. When this happens workers will be more inclined to express concerns over issues that arise and it will also help to ensure a high level of care, professionalism and expertise towards those being cared for.

As a Leadership, we commit to ensuring all workers are supervised (where possible by a named individual who arranges regular meetings) where concerns or issues can be raised, work related or personal. It is also the role of the supervisor to ensure all training needs are met. Where supervision with a named individual is not possible, or impractical, group supervision may be used as an alternative as this can maximise resources and allows for the sharing of issues and concerns.

Management of Workers - Team Meetings

The leadership recognises the importance of team meetings. These should be convened on a regular basis and should provide an opportunity for ideas and issues to be aired, concerns expressed and feedback given.

Management of Workers - Whistleblowing

In addition to effective management of allegations against staff, there needs to be a mechanism in place for workers to be able to raise legitimate concerns (e.g. improper actions or omissions) about other workers, with impunity. Commonly known as 'whistleblowing', the reporting principles are contained in the Public Disclosure Act 1998. Further information and advice can be obtained from Public Concern at Work:



Public Concern at Work

Suite 301,

16 Baldwins Gardens,

London

EC1N 7RJ

Tel: 020 7404 6609,

Email: whistle@pcaw.co.uk

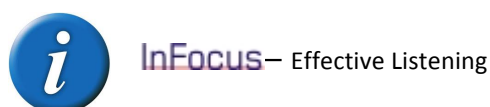
Pastoral Care

Supporting those affected by abuse

The Leadership is committed to offering pastoral care, working with statutory agencies as appropriate, and support to all those who have been affected by abuse who have contact with or are part of the place of worship / organisation.

Pastoral care is varied by nature and you should ensure that you have appropriate support and permissions before you embark upon supporting somebody with the often complex issues created by past abuse. If you are concerned about your ability to provide appropriate pastoral care and/or counselling to individuals in these circumstances, you should contact the CCPAS 24 Hour Helpline on 0845 120 45 50. CCPAS are able to provide limited support and may be able to suggest organisations or individuals who may be able to assist further.

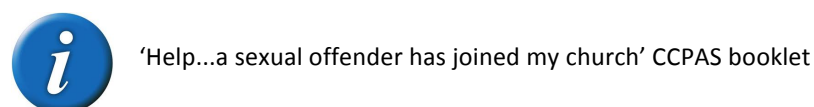
Alternatively, you should contact the Association of Christian Counsellors (ACC) who will be able to put you in contact with trained individuals who may be able to offer support. ACC also produce a Pastoral Skills training course that can be delivered in your church/organisation by somebody experienced in pastoral care.



Working with offenders

When someone attending the place of worship / organisation is known to have abused children, or is known to be a risk to vulnerable adults the Leadership will supervise the individual concerned and offer pastoral care, but in its safeguarding commitment to the protection of children and vulnerable adults, set boundaries for that person which they will be expected to keep. This may involve the use of risk assessments and supervision agreements.

Pastoral care will be offered without prejudice to all those who require it. This may also include a known offender. Where pastoral care is offered to both the person affected by abuse and the known offender, this should be offered by different people who are able to support those concerned impartially and effectively.



Practice Guidelines

As an organisation / place of worship working with children, young people and vulnerable adults we wish to operate and promote good working practice. This will enable workers to run activities safely, develop good relationships and minimise the risk of false accusation.

As well as the general Code of Conduct for workers we also have access to specific good practice guidelines for a range of activities that can be adopted. For detailed information see 'Safe & Secure' Manual - Standard 5.

Working in Partnership

The diversity of organisations and settings means there can be great variation in practice when it comes to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults. This can be because of cultural tradition, belief and religious practice or understanding, for example, of what constitutes abuse.

We therefore have clear guidelines in regards to our expectations of those with whom we work in partnership, whether in the UK or not. We will discuss with all partners our safeguarding expectations and have a partnership agreement for safeguarding. It is also our expectation that any organisation using our premises‡, as part of a letting agreement will have their own policy that meets CCPAS' safeguarding standards.

Good communication is essential in promoting safeguarding, both to those we wish to protect, to everyone involved in working with children and vulnerable adults and to all those with whom we work in partnership. This safeguarding policy is just one means of promoting safeguarding.



'Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who Work with Children and Young People' (DCSF, 2009).

‡ For additional information on hiring out your building please see ElimNet

Approvals

Signed by: _____

Print Name: JOHN WALLER

Position (On behalf of the Leadership): PASTOR

Date: 21st AUGUST 2013

Signed by: _____

Print Name: SOPHIA CHINYAMA

Position: SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Date: 21st AUGUST 2013

Signed by: _____

Print Name: NYARAI MAKONI

Position : DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Date: 21st AUGUST 2013

Signed by: _____

Print Name: DENNIS NELSON

Position: ELDER

Date: 21st AUGUST 2013

Signed by: _____

Print Name: MIKE SWARBRICK

Position: ELDER

Date: 21st AUGUST 2013

This policy will be regularly reviewed annually and amendments made as necessary. All revised versions will be forwarded to the National Safeguarding Coordinator and CCPAS.

The Safeguarding Policy: Appendix 1

Leadership Safeguarding Statement

The Leadership recognises the importance of its ministry /work with children and young people and adults in need of protection and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

The following statement was agreed by the leadership on: **21st August 2013**

This place of worship/organisation is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults 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 vulnerable adults and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of vulnerable adults 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 the place of worship/organisation 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 vulnerable adults.

We are committed to:

- Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults 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.
- Ensuring that workers 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/vulnerable adults.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this place of worship/organisation.
- 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 the place of worship/organisation affected by abuse.
- Adopting and following the 'Safe and Secure' safeguarding standards developed by the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service.

We recognise:

- Children's Social Services (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a vulnerable adult.
- 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 (in international mission activity), safeguarding practice maintains its importance and allegations or concerns will be reported in line with the procedures detailed in Appendix 4.
- 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 vulnerable adult then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding co-ordinators for this place of worship/organisation.

Sophia Chinyama Child Safeguarding Coordinator

Nyarai Makoni Deputy Child Safeguarding Coordinator

Christine Nelson Adult Safeguarding Coordinator

Charles Goddard Deputy Adult Safeguarding Coordinator

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from the Senior Minister who is:

REV. JOHN WALLER

A copy of our safeguarding policy has been lodged with CCPAS, Elim Headquarters and the Local Safeguarding Children/Adults Board.

Signed by leadership/organisation

Signed *John Waller* John Waller (senior Minister)

Dennis Nelson Dennis Nelson (Elder)

Date 12th AUGUST 2015

The Safeguarding Policy: Appendix 2

Safeguarding is a priority here

We are committed to following government and CCPAS guidelines on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and good working practice, including safe recruitment of workers.

We work to a formal safeguarding policy and it can be seen on request from:

Pastor John Waller

If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a child you can speak to:

Sophia Chinyama or Nyarai Makoni

If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a vulnerable adult you can speak to:

Charles Goddard or Christine Nelson

They have been appointed by the leadership in this place of worship/organisation to respond to any safeguarding concerns.

Signed _____ Date 21/08/2013

Leadership of place of worship/organisation



The Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service is an independent Christian charity providing child protection advice and support throughout the UK.

You can contact CCPAS' 24 hour helpline on:

0845 120 45 50

Useful Contacts

CCPAS
0845 120 45 50

Childline (for children)
0800 1111

NSPCC
0808 800 5000

Kidscape
0845 120 5204

Stop it Now
0808 1000 900

MindinfoLine
0845 766 0163

Through the Roof
01732 737041

Action on Elder Abuse
0808 808 8141



The Safeguarding Policy: Appendix 3

Statutory Definitions of Abuse (Children)

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm.

Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting; by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger. They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child or children.

Child protection legislation throughout the UK is based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Each nation within the UK has incorporated the convention within its legislation and guidance.

ENGLAND

The four definitions of abuse below operate in England based on the government guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children (2010)'.

What is abuse and neglect?

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting, by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger for example, via the internet. They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children.

Physical abuse

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development.

It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment);
- protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger;
- ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or
- ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

Statutory Definitions of Abuse (Vulnerable Adults)

The following definition of abuse is laid down in 'No Secrets: Guidance on developing and implementing multi-agency policies and procedures to protect vulnerable adults from abuse (Department of Health 2000):

'Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons. In giving substance to that statement, however, consideration needs to be given to a number of factors:

Abuse may consist of a single act or repeated acts. It may be physical, verbal or psychological, it may be an act of neglect or an omission to act, or it may occur when a vulnerable person is persuaded to enter into a financial or sexual transaction to which he or she has not consented, or cannot consent. Abuse can occur in any relationship and may result in significant harm to, or exploitation of, the person subjected to it'.

Physical Abuse

This is the infliction of pain or physical injury, which is either caused deliberately, or through lack of care.

Sexual Abuse

This is the involvement in sexual activities to which the person has not consented or does not truly comprehend and so cannot give informed consent, or where the other party is in a position of trust, power or authority and uses this to override or overcome lack of consent.

Psychological or Emotional Abuse

These are acts or behaviour, which cause mental distress or anguish or negates the wishes of the vulnerable adult. It is also behaviour that has a harmful effect on the vulnerable adult's emotional health and development or any other form of mental cruelty.

Financial or Material Abuse

This is the inappropriate use, misappropriation, embezzlement or theft of money, property or possessions

Neglect or Act of Omission

This is the repeated deprivation of assistance that the vulnerable adult needs for important activities of daily living, including the failure to intervene in behaviour which is dangerous to the vulnerable adult or to others. A vulnerable person may be suffering from neglect when their general well being or development is impaired

Discriminatory Abuse

This is the inappropriate treatment of a vulnerable adult because of their age, gender, race, religion, cultural background, sexuality, disability etc. Discriminatory abuse exists when values, beliefs or culture result in a misuse of power that denies opportunity to some groups or individuals. Discriminatory abuse links to all other forms of abuse.

Institutional Abuse

This is the mistreatment or abuse of a vulnerable adult by a regime or individuals within an institution (e.g. hospital or care home) or in the community. It can be through repeated acts of poor or inadequate care and neglect or poor professional practice.