

SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT FOR CROHAM ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

Based on the Model Policies and Procedures document from the Baptist Union

Our vision

“Loving God, loving people”

To fulfil 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

We in this church recognise our responsibilities in safeguarding all children, young people and adults at risk, regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability.

We, the members of this church commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of everyone associated with our church and its activities, and will pray for them regularly. In pursuit of this, we commit ourselves to this policy and to developing sound procedures to make sure we implement our policy well.

• Prevention and reporting of abuse

We recognise that it is the duty of every church member to help prevent the abuse of children and adults at risk, and to act if we become aware of any concerns that a children or adult at risk may be being harmed physically, sexually, emotionally, spiritually, or in any other way.

- The action that we all have a duty to take, is to pass on any concerns we may become aware of to the Church's Designated Person for Safeguarding, whether those concerns are things seen, heard or suspected. We understand that it is not our task to decide whether the concerns are “serious enough” to pass on – this is for the Designated Person to decide.

The Designated Person for Safeguarding is: Ruth Thorogood 07960 908887

The Deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding is: Janice Williams 07775 943803

The Safeguarding Trustee is: Andrew Whiting 07724 465659

- The Designated Person will work with the rest of the church's Safeguarding Team to determine if any actions are needed in response to a concern. All concerns will be held in confidence within the Safeguarding Team. The Safeguarding Team will take advice from the LBA Safeguarding Advisor

when significant response may be needed, and they will implement all steps that they advise.

- The Church's Safeguarding Team will at all times respond to any abuse that is disclosed, discovered or suspected by following the procedures in this policy, and reporting concerns where appropriate.

The Church will fully cooperate with any external investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the Church.

- **Safer recruitment, support and supervision of workers**

We will exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children and adults at risk, whether paid or voluntary. All workers, whether paid or voluntary must undertake appropriate training at intervals determined by the Safeguarding Team, and will be provided with support and supervision in their role to promote the safeguarding of all.

Respecting children and adults at risk

The Church has adopted a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and adults at risk so that all children and adults are shown the respect and care that is due to them.

- **Safer working practices**

We are committed to providing an environment that is as safe as possible for children and adults at risk and we will work with them only in ways that promote their safety and well-being.

- **A safer community**

We expect high standards of behaviour and strong adherence to safeguarding practices from everyone in our church and we will not permit anyone to be an exception to the rules.

We are committed to the prevention of bullying in all situations.

We are committed to ensuring that the participation in our church life 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, and in accordance with Baptist Union recommendations