

Safeguarding Statement

Protection of Children, Young People and Adults with Care & Support Needs

Name of Place of Worship: Church in the Community Group of Churches (CitC)

CitC is committed to and recognises the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children, young people, and adults with care and support needs, while creating a healthy culture within our Churches with challenges responded to appropriately.

The following statement was agreed by the Trustees on: 29th June 2022

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of children, young people and adults with care and support needs, at risk of harm and abuse and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We believe all children, young people and adults with care and support needs should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the place of worship, unless they pose a risk to the safety of those we serve.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of children, young people and adults with care and support needs and will ensure all our policies and procedures reflect this.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of everyone who will work with children, young people, and adults with care and support needs.
- We believe that every child, young people and adult with care and support needs should be valued, safe, respected and happy. We want to make sure that the children, young people, and adults with care and support needs with whom we have contact, with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are experiencing significant harm.

We are committed to:

- Following and keeping up to date with all national and local safeguarding legislations, developments, and procedures.
- Respecting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant of Human Rights.
- Supporting the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Safeguarding Officer(s) (DSO) in their work and in any action they may need to take, in order to protect children, young people and adults with care and support needs.
- Ensuring that as a place of worship all staff, volunteers and trustees abide by these recommendations and work within the agreed procedure and guidelines established by our safeguarding policy.
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring, and providing supervision to all staff, volunteers and trustees who undertake this work. All training will be relevant to the level required and completed at least every two years.
- Supporting everyone in the place of worship affected by abuse.

We recognise:

- Children's Social Services has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about an adult at risk.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed, 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. In addition, we will report concerns to our organisation headquarters.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We will review this Statement and our Policy annually.

If you have any concerns for a child, young person, or adult with care and support needs, then speak to the follow person who is the approved safeguarding personnel for this place of worship:

**Designated Safeguarding
Lead (DSL):**

Paul Carpenter Tel: 0330 229 1980
Email: safeguarding@churchinthecommunity.org

A copy of this place of worship's Policy can be seen by requesting a copy from the DSL.

Signed by Trustees:

Dated: 29th June 2022

Angela Armstrong

Jordan Armstrong

Stephen Bloomer

Paul Carpenter

John Owen