

SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT FOR CAIRNS ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH (CRBC)

Our vision

The vision statement of Cairns Road Baptist Church: *Rooted in the Lord Jesus Christ to be a people of conviction, courage and passion who proclaim and serve Him in all of life.*

In fulfilling 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

The church recognises its responsibilities in safeguarding all children, young people and adults at risk, regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability.

As members of this church, we commit ourselves to the prayerful nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all associated with the church. We commit ourselves to this policy and to the development of sound procedures to ensure we implement our policy well.

- **Prevention and reporting of abuse**

It is the duty of each church member to help prevent the abuse of children and adults at risk, and to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and adults at risk. Any abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected will be reported in accordance with our procedures. The church will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

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

The church will exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children and adults at risk, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safekeeping of children and adults at risk.

- **Respecting children and adults at risk**

The church will adopt 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 that is due to them.

- **Safer working practices**

The church is committed to providing an environment that is as safe as possible for children and adults at risk and will adopt ways of working with them that promote their safety and well-being.

- **A safer community**

The church is committed to the prevention of bullying. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour 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.

Responsible Persons

The church has appointed the following individuals to the church safeguarding team

Designated Persons for Safeguarding (DPS)

Judy Cordell 07541 580 022 judycordell@cairnsroad.org

Peter Evans 07842 079 429 peterevans@cairnsroad.org

They will advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk and take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Safeguarding Trustee

Peter Turnill 07813 370 292 peteturnill@cairnsroad.org

They will raise the profile of safeguarding within the church and oversee and monitor the implementation of the safeguarding policy and procedures on behalf of the church trustees.

(Further definitions of these roles can be found in Appendix 4 – Safeguarding Roles and Responsibilities)

Our church minister is also an important part of the Church Safeguarding Team. Where possible, the Church Safeguarding Team will work together if and when issues arise. However, each person has a responsibility to report allegations of abuse as soon as they are raised.

A Responsible Person should be contacted whenever there is concern over the safety of any child or vulnerable adult who has involvement with the church. Anyone (adult or child) is free to contact them for any of the following reasons:

- Any matters arising from the Safeguarding Policy.
- Concern for the wellbeing or safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult (either from observation or what the child, young person or vulnerable adult has told you.)
- Concern over another adult's actions or an observation you have made of their behaviour.

If you are unable to reach a Responsible Person and you need to act quickly:

- In an emergency call the police on 999.

- To report concerns about a child

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/social-care-health/report-your-concerns-about-a-child>

- To report concerns about an adult

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/social-care-health/report-suspected-abuse>

Putting our policy into practice

- A copy of the safeguarding policy statement will be displayed permanently in the church, in the church office and on the church website.
- Each worker with children and/or adults at risk will be given a full copy of the safeguarding policy and procedures and will be asked to sign to confirm that they will follow them.
- A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member of, or other person associated with the church.
- The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed annually, and any necessary revisions adopted into the policy and implemented through our procedures.
- This policy statement will be read annually at the church AGM, together with a report on the outcome of the annual safeguarding review.