

Totterdown Baptist Church Safeguarding Policy Statement

on children, young people, vulnerable adults and the church

The vision statement of the church is *'Being God's family, helping people to know Jesus'*.

In fulfilling this vision the church:

- Has a programme of activities with children and young people.
- Welcomes children, young people and vulnerable adults into the life of our community.
- Makes our premises available to organisations working with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The church recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of all children and young people under the age of 18 (regardless of ethnicity, gender and ability) as set out in The Children's act 1989 and 2004, Safe from Harm (HM Government 1994) and working together to safeguard children (HM Government 2010).

As members of the church we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of all children, young people and vulnerable adults associated with the church and will pray for them regularly.

In pursuit of this we commit ourselves to the following policies and to the development of procedures to ensure their implementation.

Prevention and reporting of abuse

It is the duty of each church member and each member of the wider church family to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children, young people or vulnerable adults, and the duty of all to respond to concerns about their well-being and to report any abuse discovered or suspected. The church will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

Safe recruitment, support and supervision of workers

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

Respecting children and young people

The church will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and young people so that all children and young people are shown the respect due to them.

Safe working practices

The church is committed to providing a safe environment for activities with children, young people and vulnerable adults and will adopt ways of working with them that promote their safety and well-being.

A safe community

This church is committed to the prevention of bullying of children, young people and vulnerable adults. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any who may pose a risk to children and young people in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

Responsible people

Any discovered or suspected abuse should be reported to one of our designated persons.

The church has appointed Sharon Loader as the safeguarding trustee to:

- Oversee and monitor implementation of the policy and procedure on behalf of the church's charity trustees.

The church has appointed Elaine Temlett as the designated person for safeguarding to:

- Advise the church on any matters relating to the safeguarding of children and young people.
- Take appropriate actions when any kind of abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.



Designated Deacon:
Sharon Loader

sharon_loader@yahoo.com



Designated person:
Elaine Temlett
Phone: 0117 983 1770
et_dt@hotmail.com

Policy and procedures

A copy of the policy statement will be displayed permanently on the noticeboard in the parlour, vestibule, Jarman Hall, Saltcellar and Upper Sunday School rooms.

Each worker with children and young people will be given a copy of the policy and procedures and will be required to follow them.

A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member of the church, the parent/carers of any child or young person from the church or any other person associated with the church.

The policy and procedures will be reviewed at least annually.