

Ruddington Baptist Church Policy on Children, Vulnerable Adults and the Church.

Adopted at the church meeting 7th June 1995.

Last revised at the church meeting 15th May 2016

- As members of this church, we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all, especially children and vulnerable adults.
- 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 and vulnerable adults, and the duty of all to respond to concerns about their well-being and to report any abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected. The church will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.
- We will take care when selecting and appointing people to work with children, young people and vulnerable adults, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safeguarding of children.
- We are 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 in the community of the church is managed appropriately.
- We will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children, young people and vulnerable adults, so that all are shown the respect due to them, and to help protect workers from false accusation or unnecessary and unwarranted suspicion.
- We recognise the value of electronic communication as a legitimate means of communicating with children and young people as long as strict protocols are followed.
- We are committed to providing a safe environment for activities with children, young people and vulnerable adults, and will adopt ways of working that promote their safety and well-being.
- We are committed to following the Home Office Code of Practice "Safe From Harm", with reference to the guidelines and procedures published by the Baptist Union of Great Britain, in its booklet, "Safe to Grow". (Revised edition 2011)
- As part of our commitment to children and vulnerable adults, the church appoints a Designated Person for Safeguarding, whose name, address and telephone number will be publicly displayed in The Hub and the church notice sheet.
- This policy will be reviewed annually at a church meeting, where progress in carrying it out will be monitored.

..... Minister

.....Secretary

.....Date

