



## Carey Baptist Church Safeguarding Statement

The Leadership (being the Elders/Trustees) of Carey Baptist Church recognises the importance of its ministry/work with children, young people and adults in need of protection and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

The following statement was agreed by the leadership of Carey Baptist Church on 15 June 2021.

This church is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults, and ensuring the well-being of those with whom we have contact.

Specifically:

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect of children and young people (those under 18 years of age), and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We believe every individual should be valued and safe. We want to make sure that everyone we have contact with knows this and that they are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.
- All children and young people have the right to be treated with respect, to be listened to and to be protected from all forms of abuse.
- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of vulnerable adults and will ensure all our policies and procedures reflect this.
- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to church life without discrimination unless they pose a risk to the safety of those we serve.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of all those who will work with children and adults.

### **We are committed to:**

- Following the requirements of UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and good practice recommendations.
- Respecting the rights of children as described in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Implementing the requirements of legislation with regard to people with disabilities.
- Ensuring that workers adhere to the agreed procedures of our safeguarding policy.
- Keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.

- Following any organisational guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults in need of protection.
- Supporting the safeguarding co-ordinator/s in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children/vulnerable adults.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by Carey Baptist Church.
- Supporting parents and families.
- Nurturing, protecting and safeguarding children, young people and adults.
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring and providing supervision to all those who undertake this work.
- Supporting all at Carey Baptist Church affected by abuse.
- Adopting and following the safeguarding standards developed by ThirtyOne:Eight

### **We recognise:**

- Children's Social Services (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about an adult.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then 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, and in addition we will report concerns to the appropriate UK agencies.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

### **We will review this statement and our policy and procedures annually.**

If you have any concerns for a child or adult then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding co-ordinators for Carey Baptist Church.

**Paula Gibbs (Safeguarding Coordinator)**

Telephone: 07803 293792

**Hannah Swanepoel (Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator)**

Telephone: 07545 614872

**Andrew Barnett (Safeguarding Elder)**

Telephone: 07498549578

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from the Church Office.

A copy of our safeguarding policy has been lodged with ThirtyOne:Eight

Signed on behalf of the church leadership

Signed:



Date:

06/10/2024