

Appendix 1

Policy Statement on Safeguarding

KingsGate Community Church **Policy Statement on Safeguarding** **To be displayed in a prominent place**

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH ADDITIONAL CARE AND SUPPORT NEEDS POLICY STATEMENT

The following statement was agreed by the Leadership Team on 13th April 2016.

- KingsGate Community Church in all its Centres is committed to the safeguarding of both children and adults with additional care and support needs and ensuring their well-being.
- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of children or adults with additional care and support needs and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of both children and adults with additional care and support needs and will ensure that all our policies and procedures reflect this.
- We believe all adults and children should enjoy appropriate access to the life and ministries of KingsGate Community Church where safe to do so.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those who will work with children and adults with additional care and support needs.
- We believe everyone should be valued and feel safe. We want to make sure that all children and adults with additional care and support needs involved in the life of KingsGate Community Church know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.

We are committed to:

- Following statutory guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults and KingsGate Community Church will ensure that as a place of worship/organisation all workers (paid and unpaid) will work within the agreed procedure of our safeguarding policy.
- Implementing the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005 and all other relevant legislation including the Equality act 2010 and The Care Act 2014.
- Supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake this work.
- Ensuring that we are keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding by working in partnership with Thirtyone:eight and other organisations.
- Encouraging everyone to embrace and abide by the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Supporting all those involved in the life of KingsGate Community Church 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 with care and support needs.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- **Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

We will review this statement and our policy annually.

If you have any concerns for a child or an adult with care and support needs then speak to one of the following who have been approved as Safeguarding Team Leaders or one of the Safeguarding Coordinators identified on posters at each location.

Jim Thody
Safeguarding Team Leader

Date _____



Karen Smith
Deputy Safeguarding Team Leader

Date _____



Barry Featherstone
Trustee for Safeguarding

Date _____



Date _____

Last reviewed and agreed 1/9/2020

A copy of the safeguarding policy can be seen on our website [kingsgate.church](https://www.kingsgate.church) or by emailing safeguarding@kingsgate.church