



# Abington Avenue United Reformed Church



*Our mission is to “celebrate God’s love together, grow in Christ and serve our neighbour”.*

## Safeguarding Policy Statement

*Taking seriously the responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children, young people (under 18), and vulnerable adults entrusted to our care.*

*(Vulnerable adults are people who are over 18 years of age and are getting, or may need help and services to live in the community. Vulnerable adults may be unable to take care of themselves and unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation by other people).*

### Our Safeguarding Policy

This policy applies to all staff, paid, voluntary or sessional, and church members, or anyone working on behalf of Abington Avenue United Reformed Church.

#### The purpose of this policy:

- To protect those who receive Abington Avenue United Reformed Church’s services either via its Mission and Outreach or its Church Nurturing.
- To provide all staff, volunteers and church members with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding;

Abington Avenue United Reformed Church believes that a child, young person or vulnerable adult should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all, and to keep them safe. We will do this by;

1. Valuing, listening to, respecting and relating effectively to children, young people and vulnerable adults, whilst ensuring their protection within church activities;
2. Adopting safeguarding practices through implementing procedures and outlining responsibilities for staff, volunteers and church members;
3. Developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy and related procedures
4. Encouraging and supporting parents/carers;
5. Providing effective management for staff, volunteers and church members through supervision, support and training;
6. Appointing staff, volunteers and church members (those working with children, young people, and vulnerable adults) safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made;
7. Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, young people, vulnerable adults, parents/carers, staff, volunteers and church members;
8. Responding to and reporting concerns of neglect or abuse to agencies who need to know and involving others appropriately.

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually, taking into consideration any comments received concerning the effectiveness of our Policy and Procedures. If you recognise an issue and feel that it is not dealt with effectively by this policy, please report to the Policy Co-ordinator in writing. Changes can be assessed and applied where necessary.

This policy was last reviewed July 2018

