



Easterhouse Baptist Church Safeguarding Statement

The Senior Leadership Team recognise the importance of the church's ministry /work with children, including young people, and adults in need of protection and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

The following statement was updated and agreed by the SLT on 15th March 2020.

Easterhouse Baptist Church is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults at risk of harm and ensuring their well-being.

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 vulnerable adults and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We believe every child, young person and adult should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that those we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.
- All children and young people and adults 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 adults at risk of harm and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of adults who find themselves victims of forced marriage or modern slavery and will ensure all our policies and procedures reflect this.
- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the place of worship/organisation 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, young people and adults with care and support needs.

We are committed to:

- Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children, young people and 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 in 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 denominational or organisational guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults at risk of harm.
- Supporting the safeguarding panel in its work and in any action it may need to take in order to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults.

- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this place of worship.
- Supporting parents and families
- Nurturing, protecting and safeguarding of children and young people
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring and providing supervision to all those who undertake this work.
- Supporting all in the place of worship/organisation affected by abuse.
- Adopting and following the 'Safe and Secure' safeguarding standards developed by thirtyone:eight

We recognise:

- Glasgow Social Work Department has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child or about an adult at risk of harm.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- We will report concerns to the Scottish Baptist Union and if work is done outside of the UK, concerns will be reported to the appropriate agencies in the country in which we operate, and their procedures followed.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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

If you have any concerns for a child, young person or adult at risk of harm or are concerned about yourself, then speak to one of the following who have been approved as the Safeguarding Panel for this place of worship.

Irene Riley	Child and Adult Safeguarding Coordinator
Annette Holman	Deputy Child and Adult Safeguarding Coordinator
Pam Fulton	Safeguarding Panel Member

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from all the above. Due to copyright, it is not available on the church website.

Signed by the Church Secretary on behalf of the Leadership



Linda McIntosh (Church Secretary, Easterhouse Baptist Church)

Date 15th March 2020

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