

Appendix 2a: Our safeguarding code of conduct

This code of conduct is a set of guidelines outlining the main responsibilities and practices for those working and volunteering with vulnerable groups. It is based on the statement of intent and guidelines from the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Handbook.

As a _____ (role) at _____ (church)
working with children* / vulnerable adults*, I will:

1. Follow our policy, procedures and best practice guidelines in relation to the safeguarding and protection of children and vulnerable adults.
2. Cooperate with the safer recruitment processes including a DBS check where the role is eligible.
3. Attend safeguarding training and any training relevant to my role as requested by leaders.
4. Endeavour to ensure the safety and protection of children and vulnerable adults in church situations and activities (including online) and follow measures outlined in any risk assessments.
5. Endeavour to recognise situations where children and young people and vulnerable adults could potentially suffer harm during church activities and seek advice from a leader when necessary.
6. Follow our policy and procedures by responding immediately to all disclosures, concerns, allegations, and suspicions of abuse by reporting them to the panel safeguarding officer, the denominational general secretary or the church safeguarding coordinator .
In an emergency, I will contact the police, ambulance or social services without delay.
7. Report any misuse of authority by an individual to the panel safeguarding officer or general secretary.
8. Never agree to keep any abuse or safeguarding concerns a secret.
9. Listen to children and vulnerable adults, respond sensitively, treat them with respect and in line with our policy and guidelines.
10. Follow safeguarding advice and guidance provided by the panel's safeguarding officer, and/or the general secretary of the denomination and cooperate fully with statutory services in the event of any investigations or interventions.

Declaration

I agree to abide by the expectations outlined above and confirm that I have read the safeguarding policies and procedures that are relevant to my role.

Name _____ Signed _____

Date _____

Witnessed by _____ (signature) _____ (name and role)

Signed _____

¹ It is recommended that churches appoint a local safeguarding coordinator, but we accept that not all churches have this role. In this event, please contact the panel safeguarding officer straightaway. A local safeguarding coordinator should inform the panel safeguarding officer of all safeguarding concerns/cases as soon as possible.

*Delete as appropriate