

## Leadership Safeguarding Statement

The Trustees, Lead pastors and Core team, [hereafter referred to as Leadership] recognises the importance of its ministry/work with children, young people and adults at risk and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

We are committed to creating and enabling a healthy culture in order to minimise any coercion and control within our organisation.

The following statement was agreed by the Leadership/organisation on: 12 September 2022:

This organisation is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk and ensuring their well-being.

Specifically:

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual and 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 child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that children we have contact with know this and 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 adults at risk 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 and adults at risk.
- We believe in the necessity of creating a healthy culture in our organisation where the value of all people is recognised and challenges are responded to appropriately.

We are committed to:

- Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children 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 in need of protection.
- Supporting the Safeguarding Co-ordinator/Deputies in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children/adults at risk.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this place of worship/organisation.
- 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:

- 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 at risk.
- 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 and procedures annually.

I have read and understood this section.

#### General Information

If you have any concerns for a child or adult at risk then speak to one of the following who have been approved as Safeguarding Co-ordinator/Deputies for this organisation by emailing [safeguarding@citycoast.church](mailto:safeguarding@citycoast.church)

Or calling

Ruth Lewis (07795 484011)

Child and Adult Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Yolanda Clay (07825 381160)

Deputy Child Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Simon Lewis (07747 603078)

Deputy Adult Safeguarding Co-ordinator

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from Simon Lewis

I confirm I will seek to follow the procedures outlined in the CityCoast Safeguarding Policy.