

NEW LIFE CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

SAFEGUARDING POLICY & PROCEDURES

FEBRUARY 2023

New Life Church, Cambridge

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www.newlifechurchcambridge.org

A: Safeguarding Policy

New Life Church, Cambridge (hereafter “NLC”) is committed to promoting a safe environment for the effective delivery of ministry to everyone and in particular children, young people and vulnerable adults¹. To that end. NLC:

- 1 Takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard everyone and in particular the children, young people and vulnerable adults entrusted to its care.
- 2 Recognises that the overall responsibility for children, young people and vulnerable adults lies primarily with their parent(s) and/or carer(s).
- 3 Is committed to encouraging and supporting parents and carers.
- 4 Will ensure that all paid workers, interns and volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults are responsibly appointed, are not barred from doing so by the DBS² registration scheme (or equivalent) and are supported and trained as appropriate.
- 5 Will adhere to good practice guidelines for working with children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- 6 Recognises that many children, young people and vulnerable adults are the victims of neglect or of physical, sexual and emotional abuse³ and has procedures to deal objectively and safely with safeguarding suspicions or allegations and will ensure that these procedures are known to, and followed by, all workers, interns and volunteers. It also recognises that many vulnerable adults are the victims of financial abuse³.
- 7 Will consider the impact of its plans and decisions on everyone and in particular children, young people and vulnerable adults.

¹ A definition of a ‘vulnerable adult’ is given in ‘No Secrets’ (the Government’s Guidance on Adult Abuse) as: ‘a person aged 18 years or over, who is in receipt of, or may be in need of, community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation’.

² The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) helps organisations make safer recruitment decisions and prevents unsuitable people from working with vulnerable groups, including children and young people.

³ For definitions of various types of abuse, see Appendix B

- 8 Will ensure that all NLC activities – and especially those involving children, young people and vulnerable adults - take place safely in risk-assessed venues.
- 9 Has an appropriately trained **Safeguarding Officer** and **Safeguarding Trustee**, with the responsibility, authority and independence to ensure that NLC’s policies and procedures are up to date and are fully and correctly implemented.
- 10 Will regularly review - and, where necessary, revise - this policy and procedures and will ensure that everyone in NLC is aware of the key safeguarding issues, and that all paid workers, interns and volunteers are kept fully aware of the detailed guidance contained in this document.
- 11 Will respond quickly to any complaints received by investigating their cause and taking prompt and effective corrective action where necessary.
- 12 Is committed, where necessary, to working with any relevant external agency on safeguarding issues.

Whilst the main focus of this document is on those who work directly (under the oversight of the leaders of NLC) with children, young people and vulnerable adults, the principles that undergird this policy must at all times be adhered to by members of, and visitors to, NLC.