

Policy Statement on Safeguarding

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY STATEMENT

The following statement was agreed by the leadership on: 13 March 2019

- The Lighthouse Church - New Malden is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and ensuring their well-being.
- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of children and vulnerable adults and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise that the personal dignity and rights of children and vulnerable adults and will ensure all our policies and procedures will reflect this.
- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the Lighthouse Church
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with children and vulnerable adults by informing Applicants for posts within The Lighthouse Church - New Malden:
 - if the positions are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as amended in 2013) ('the Exceptions Order') and the Childcare Act 2006 (and the Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations, where appropriate);
 - of the need to carry out checks before certain posts can be confirmed;
 - that any job offer will be withdrawn if any check is not satisfactory and
 - have the right to know and to challenge incorrect information, where applications are rejected because of information that has been disclosed.
- 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.
- The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is safeguarded and promoted by The Lighthouse Church - New Malden, by the drawing up and effective implementation of our written Risk Assessment, which takes appropriate action to reduce risks that are identified.
- This policy statement applies to all employed members of staff, and to those contractors who have regular access to The Lighthouse Church - New Malden. The categories of staff include full and part time staff of all categories, peripatetic and other visiting staff who are self-employed, and those volunteers who also are included as regular in attendance at The Lighthouse Church - New Malden.
(This could be under a heading scope, near the beginning, if preferred.)

We are committed to:

- Following statutory specialist guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults and will ensure that as a place of worship all workers will work within the agreed procedure of our safeguarding policy.
- Implementing the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 which replaced the Disability

Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005 and all other relevant legislation.

- Supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake this work.
- Ensuring that we are keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this place of worship/organisation.
- Supporting all in the place of worship/organisation affected by abuse.

We recognise:

Pastor: Sam Jayakrishna (07415 299700)

Elder: Bob Mullins (07711 70 20 75)

Company Registration No:8215625 Charity Registration No:1149176

- Children's Social Services has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a vulnerable adult.
- That children and vulnerable adults with special educational needs and disabilities can face additional safeguarding challenges and that additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of and vulnerable adults.
- 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 annually.

If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult, then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding co-ordinators for this place of worship/organisation.

Safeguarding Co-Ordinator: Bob Mullins 0208 715 4165 Mob: 07711 70 20 75

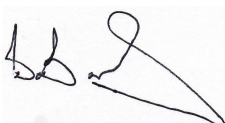
info@lighthouse-church.org.uk

Deputy Safeguarding Co-Ordinator:

A copy of this Lighthouse Church - New Malden policy can be seen in the Church office & Online:

<https://www.lighthouse-church.org.uk/Groups/252274/Policies.aspx>

Signed



Sam Jayakrishna - Pastor

Bob Mullins – Elder

Date: 13th March 2019