

Safeguarding Statement



Hope Church, Harrogate believes that it is always unacceptable for any child or vulnerable adult to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard their welfare by a commitment to practice that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount;
- regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, all have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- working in partnership with children, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting their welfare.

The purpose of our safeguarding policy, which is available on request, is to provide:

- protection for the children who receive services provided by Hope;
- staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

The policy applies to all staff (paid or unpaid), including church leaders and Trustees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of the Church.

We will seek to safeguard children and vulnerable adults by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them;
- adopting and implementing a safeguarding policy, including procedures and a code of conduct signed by all relevant staff and volunteers;
- encouraging each activity-based team to frame, adopt and keep under review good practice guidelines for their activity;
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made;
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents/carers, staff and volunteers;
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents/carers and children appropriately;
- providing effective management of staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.

We are committed to reviewing our policies on an annual basis.

This statement and Hope's safeguarding policy is reviewed annually.