

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN POLICY STATEMENT

Name of Place of worship: **Hope Church (Newtown)**

The following statement was agreed by the leadership on: **October 2024**

- This place of worship is committed to the safeguarding of children and ensuring their well-being.

We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent harm or Abuse to children in all their recognised forms.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of children and will ensure all our policies and procedures will reflect this.
- We believe all people should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the place of worship.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with children.
- We believe every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that all those we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are experiencing significant harm.

We are committed to:

- Following statutory denominational and specialist guidelines in relation to safeguarding children 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 all relevant legislation including, but not limited to; Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005, Equality Act 2010
- 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 affected by abuse.

We recognise:

- Children's Social Services has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child.

- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Child Protection is everyone's responsibility.

We will review this statement and our policy annually.

If you have any concerns, then speak to one of the following who have been approved as Child Protection co-ordinators for this place of worship.

Denise Curgenvan - Safeguarding Co-Ordinator

Ed Coomber - Deputy Safeguarding Co-Ordinator

Beth Johnston – Youth Pastor

Jo Green – Childrens Pastor

A copy of this place of worship's policy can be seen on our website and is available upon request

Signed by Lead Pastor

Signed 

Date 08 October 2024