

SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PRACTICE

Grace Church Bath: A Safe Space For All



This policy and practice agreement was adopted by the GCB Core Group (the leadership group of GCB which includes the pastor and elders) on 15th January 2020

This the local arrangement for safeguarding specifically for GCB, and operates in conjunction with, and in accordance with, the Church of England Safeguarding Policy: 'Promoting a Safer Church' 2018.

Grace Church Bath is committed to:

- Promoting a safe environment and culture for all people, and specifically children and vulnerable adults.
- Ensuring safe recruitment of people who will have responsibility related to children, young people, and vulnerable adults, whether as paid members of staff or volunteers.
- The pastoral care of survivors of abuse and anyone affected by abuse.
- The pastoral care of those who are subject to an allegation or concern relating to safeguarding or abuse, and anyone else affected by the same.
- A timely and appropriate response to any safeguarding concern or allegation.
- An appropriate response to any person who may pose a risk to others.

Grace Church Bath will:

- Have a named, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who will be responsible for ensuring the implementation of this policy and practice, including safe recruitment and appropriate responses to concerns and allegations. The DSL will work with the Pastor and Elders to that end.
- Provide all resources necessary for the safe recruitment, training, and support for any person with a responsibility for children, young people, and vulnerable adults at GCB.
- Clearly display on our website and in any space where we meet the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns.
- Listen to and take seriously all allegations of abuse or reported safeguarding concerns.
- Respond swiftly and proportionately to protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults when a safeguarding concern is raised, in accordance with the House of Bishops Guidelines. We will notify the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (DSA) and statutory agencies.
- Offer support to survivors of abuse, or direct them to appropriate support, no matter when or where that abuse occurred.
- Appropriately monitor any member of our church family who may pose a risk to children, young people, or vulnerable adults, being mindful of confidentiality and the safety of all individuals.
- Provide care for any member of our church family who may pose a risk to children, young people, or vulnerable adults, being mindful of confidentiality and the safety of all individuals.
- Ensure that the following are in place, and reviewed annually:
 - Proper insurance cover for all GCB activities involving children, young people, and adults.
 - A Health and Safety Policy
 - Risk Assessments
- Review this Safeguarding Policy and Practice at least annually.

Every person who undertakes a role with children, young people, or vulnerable adults must agree to adhere to and abide by this policy, and the wider safeguarding policies of the C of E in which this operates.

On 15th January 2020 the leadership of GCB appointed Kevin Purkiss to be the GCB Designated Safeguarding Lead, and Bertie Kennedy to be the assistant DSL.