



POLICY STATEMENT
On
Safeguarding Children and Young People in Wilton Baptist Church

Wilton Baptist Church - Market Square, Wilton, Salisbury, SP2 0HT
(referred to as "WBC" in this Policy Statement)

The purpose of the church is:

"Proclaiming and serving Christ in our community and the wider world,
showing the love of God and encouraging each other to follow Jesus"

In fulfilling this purpose WBC:

- has a programme of activities with children and young people
- welcomes children and young people into the life of our community

WBC recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of all children and young people under the age of 18 (regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability) as set out in The Children Act 1989 and 2004, Safe from Harm (HM Government 1994) and Working Together to Safeguard Children (HM Government 2010) .

As members of WBC we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of all children and young people associated with the church and will pray for them regularly.

In pursuit of this we commit ourselves to the following policies and to the development of procedures to ensure their implementation.

Prevention and reporting of abuse

It is the duty of each church member and each member of the wider church family to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children and young people and the duty of all to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and young people and to report any child abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected. WBC will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

Safe recruitment, support and supervision of workers

WBC will exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children and young people, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safeguarding of children.

Respecting children and young people

WBC will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and young people so that all children and young people are shown the respect that is due to them.

Safe working practices

WBC is committed to providing a safe environment for activities with children and young people and will adopt ways of working with children and young people that promote their safety and well-being.

A safe community

WBC is committed to the prevention of bullying of children and young people whilst in our care. WBC will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any who may pose a risk to children and young people in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

Responsible people

The church has appointed Mrs Paula Jameson as the Safeguarding Deacon to:

- oversee and monitor implementation of the policy and procedures on behalf of the church's charity trustees

The church has appointed Mr David Douse as the Designated Person for Safeguarding to:

- advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and young people
- take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Policy and procedures

A copy of the policy statement will be displayed permanently on the notice board in WBC foyer.

Each worker with children and young people, whether paid or voluntary, will be given a full copy of the policy and procedures and will be required to follow them.

A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member of WBC, the parents or carers of any child or young person from WBC or any other person associated with the WBC.

The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed at least annually.

The policy statement will be read annually at the church meeting in April together with a report on the outcome of the annual review.

This church appoints Mr David Douse as the Designated Person and Mrs Paula Jameson as the Safeguarding Deacon.

Signed(Chair of meeting)

Position

Date