



Cornerstone Church Bridlington CIO

St Johns Walk  
Off Brett street  
Bridlington  
YO16 4 HJ

affiliated to **fiec**   
the FELLOWSHIP of INDEPENDENT EVANGELICAL CHURCHES  
01262 675860

## Leadership Safeguarding Statement

**The Leadership of Stuart Howarth, Sara Dean, Sue Collier, Sophia White, Dave Collier, Rosie Gilliland Rodger Armitage and Pat Armitage recognise the importance of its ministry/work with children, young people and adults in need of protection and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.**

**The following statement was agreed by the original Leadership on 23/1/17 and is reviewed and signed by the current leadership annually.**

**This place of worship is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and ensuring their wellbeing.**

Specifically:-

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect of children and young people (those under 18 years of age) and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- 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.
- All children and young people have the right to be treated with respect, to be listened to and to be protected from all forms of abuse.
- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of adults who have care and support needs and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of adults who find themselves victims of forced marriage or modern slavery and will ensure all our policies and procedures reflect this.
- We believe that all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the place of worship unless they pose a risk to the safety of those we serve.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of all those who will work with children and adults with care and support needs.

## **We are committed to:**

- Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children and adults and good practice recommendations.
- Respecting the rights of children as described in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Implementing the requirements of legislation in regard to people with disabilities.
- Ensuring that workers adhere to the agreed procedures of our safeguarding policy.
- Keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Following any denominational or organisational guidelines in relation to safeguarding.
- Supporting the safeguarding coordinator/s in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children/vulnerable adults.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this place of worship.
- Supporting parents and families
- Nurturing, protecting and safeguarding of children and young people
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring and providing supervision to all those who undertake this work.
- Supporting all in the place of worship affected by abuse.
- Adopting and following the 'Safe and Secure' safeguarding standards developed by the churches' Child Protection Advisory Service.

## **We recognise**

- 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 an adult with care and support needs.
- 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 and procedures annually.**

If you have concerns for a child or adult with care and support needs then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding coordinators for this place of worship:-

**Sue Collier – Child Safeguarding Coordinator/Deputy Adult Safeguarding Coordinator**

**Sophia White – Adult Safeguarding Coordinator/Deputy Child Safeguarding coordinator**

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from The Coordinators.

**Signed**

**Date**