



Protection of Adults at Risk Statement

As a church in the local community, Walsgrave Baptist Church (WBC) seeks to:

Make the love of God first on our list, welcoming all to experience the love and power of Jesus, to inspire our people – being Jesus to one another – and to use our buildings and resources in ways that show love to our community and city.

As members of this church, we commit ourselves to the safeguarding of adults at risk and ensuring their well-being in the life of this church and we 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, emotional, sexual, financial and spiritual abuse of adults at risk and the duty of all to respond to concerns about their well-being and to report any abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected.

The church will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any who may pose a threat to adults at risk in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

The church is dedicated to providing pastoral care and support to those who have experienced abuse.

Safe recruitment, support and supervision of workers

The church will exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with adults at risk, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safeguarding of these individuals. They will each receive a copy of relevant policies and procedures to their post and will be required to follow them.

The church adopts the guidelines of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, outlined in *Safe to Belong*. Each person who works with adults at risk will agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this church.

Safe working practices

The church is committed to providing a safe environment for activities with adults at risk and will adopt ways of working with them that promote their safety and well-being.

Responsible people

The Designated Person for Safeguarding at this church is responsible for representing the concerns and views of adults at risk at our meetings and to outside bodies. They should also be contacted in the case of any concerns or questions regarding protecting adults at risk.

The church has appointed Hannah Wallis as the Designated Person for Safeguarding to:

- advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of adults at risk
- take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected

The church has appointed Jill Neale as the Safeguarding Trustee to:

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

If an adult is in imminent danger of harm, the police or emergency services should be contacted without delay on 999.