

Leadership Safeguarding Statement

The following statement was agreed by the leadership of Doncaster Evangelical Church:

The Leadership recognises the importance of its ministry and work with children and young people and also its responsibility to protect and safeguard everyone entrusted to our care; creating a culture which minimises any incidents within our church.

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, feel loved and are safe and happy. We want to make sure that children we have contact with realise this truth 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 undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of all those who will work with children.

We believe in the necessity of creating a culture in our church where the value of all people is recognised and any incidents that may occur are responded to appropriately.

We are committed to:

Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children 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 regarding children and young 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 FIEC guidelines in relation to safeguarding children.

Supporting the safeguarding co-ordinator(s) and all workers in their designated roles.

Supporting parents and families where appropriate.

Supporting, training and monitoring all those who undertake young people's work.

Supporting all who are affected by abuse.

Adopting and following the safeguarding standards developed by Thirtyone:eight.

We recognise:

Children's Social Services (or equivalent) 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.

Where working outside of the UK, concerns will be reported to the appropriate agencies in the country in which we operate, and their procedures followed, and in addition we will report concerns to our agency's headquarters.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We will review this statement and our policy and procedures biannually.