CBA SAFEGUARDING POLICY 2019

The trustees of CBA care about the safeguarding of everyone who comes into contact with churches in membership with the Association, particularly children, young people and adults at risk.

The trustees recognise that they have no power to enforce good practice in safeguarding upon member churches and nor can they accept any responsibility for safeguarding in churches as this is the responsibility of the leaders of each local church.

Leaders in local churches are responsible for

* putting safeguarding policies in place and ensuring that they are disseminated appropriately and adhered to in all aspects
* the activities undertaken by the church on its own premises and elsewhere
* ensuring that outside groups using their premises have appropriate policies to which they adhere
* reporting incidents to the CBA Safeguarding Officer as appropriate and required

However, the trustees of CBA actively encourage each Baptist church or LEP in membership to take safeguarding seriously, ensuring that the children, young people and adults at risk that it is in contact with are kept safe from harm.

The trustees expect each church to have robust safeguarding policies in place and to act in line with those policies. To this end, the trustees signpost on their website resources available on the Baptists Together website and make training available to all church members and church leaders in CBA churches at reasonable – often subsidised - cost. The delivery of safeguarding training at appropriate levels around the Association is overseen by the Regional Ministry Team and the Safeguarding Officer.

The trustees ensure that their safeguarding policies and practice are fully up-to-date and operating as effectively as possible through members of staff who attend the BUGB National Safeguarding Network.

CBA Trustees and staff are subject to the DBS checks appropriate for their role and are expected to undertake safeguarding training to Level 2 or equivalent as approved by the Safeguarding Officer. The trustees undertake to exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of any paid or volunteer staff working with children, young people or adults at risk, for example at Association events. This includes ensuring that DBS checks are undertaken at an appropriate level.

The Association Safeguarding Officer has established a procedure for ensuring that appropriate records are kept of safeguarding incidents reported to CBA and is compliant with guidance from BUGB. The retention of these reports is compliant with GDPR.

May 2019