

Weston Free Church (Moravian)

Safeguarding Policy

The following policy was agreed at the church committee meeting held on 11th May 2023

1. We are committed to:
 - The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with all children and all adults
 - The safeguarding and protection of all vulnerable persons - children, young people and vulnerable adults
 - The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse.
2. We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility for vulnerable persons within the Church.
3. We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, co-operating with the police and local authority in any investigation and we will have a clear reporting procedure in place.
4. We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with him or her an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
5. We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
6. We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
7. In all these principles we will follow statute, guidance and recognised good practice, including the guidance documents issued by the Moravian Church or other denomination if they lead in a partnership.
8. We will advise the Provincial Youth and Children's Officer if we receive a Disclosure which is 'blemished' or 'positive'.
9. We will review this policy annually, check that our procedures are up to date, and supply a copy of the updated policy to the Provincial Safeguarding Lead.

Our Safeguarding Adviser is:

Name Shirley Ward

Telephone 07796566173

Email shirleyward@btinternet.com

Signed:

Church committee member 1: S. Biggs

Church committee member 2: R. Boddy

Minister

Rev L.C. Shorten

Date 11/05/2023