

Stopsley Baptist Church



Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

October 21st 2015

St Thomas's Road, Luton, LU2 7XP

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Contact Details

Designated Person for Safeguarding

Name: Steve Moody

Contact Number: 07787 420787

Deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding

Name: Pete Croall

Contact Number:

Safeguarding trustee/elder

Name: Rachel Carron

Contact Number:

Regional Minister

Name: Geoff Colmer

Contact Number: 01462 442548

Safeguarding Board

Serreta Pritchard (Chair)

Steve Moody (Designated Officer)

Hilary Cox, Sue Pirks, John Good, Jo White, Pete Croall, Dawn Crowhurst

Luton Safeguarding Children Board

Email: safeguarding@luton.gov.uk

Tel: 01582 547590 (Business)

01582 547555 (Training)

CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE TEAM

If you are concerned about a child or young person, call the **Rapid Intervention and Assessment Team (RATS)** on **01582 547653**

Or out of office hours

Emergency Duty Team - 0300 3008123

If you are concerned about a member of staff or a volunteer, call the **LADO** on Luton **548069** or via email on LADO@luton.gcsx.gov.uk

Organisation (Churches Agency for Safeguarding)

020 7467 5216

Policy Statement

Safeguarding Children and Young People at Stopsley Baptist Church

The vision of Stopsley Baptist Church ("the church") is: to grow to be a community of missional communities.

In fulfilling this vision the church

- has a programme of activities with children and young people
- welcomes children and young people into the life of our community, both on site and in missional community ("Beacon") settings
- makes our premises available to organisations working with children and young people

The church recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of all children and young people under the age of 18 (regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability) as set out in *The Children Act 1989* and 2004, *Safe from Harm* (HM Government 1994) and *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (HM Government 2015).

As members of this church we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of all children and young people associated with the church and 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 and responding to concern

It is the duty of each church member and each member of the wider church family to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children and young people and the duty of all to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and young people and to report any child abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected. The church will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

Safe recruitment, support and supervision of workers

The church will exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children and young people, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safeguarding of children.

Safe behaviour: a code of behaviour for workers

The church will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and young people so that all children and young people are shown the respect that is due to them.

Safe practice and safe premises

The church is committed to providing a safe environment for activities with children and young people and will adopt ways of working with children and young people that promote their safety and well-being.

A safe community

The church is committed to the prevention of bullying of children and young people. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any who may pose a risk to children and young people in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

Responsible people

The church has appointed **Rachel Carron** as the Safeguarding Trustee and **Steve Moody** as Senior Pastor to oversee and monitor implementation of the policy and procedures on behalf of the church's charity trustees.

The church has appointed **Steve Moody** as the Designated Person for Safeguarding, and **Pete Croall** as deputy, to:

- advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and young people
- take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

The Elders/Trustees have delegated a **Safeguarding Board**. It exists to oversee the safeguarding policy and practice of all aspects of the church's work and ministry. It is comprised of ministry and project leaders, has two additional co-opted members with significant safeguarding experience one of whom chairs the board. It seeks to hold staff and volunteers accountable for good practice and the implementation of this policy. The board discusses safeguarding issues as and when they arise, making recommendations for the sound management of matters, offering guidance and support as appropriate. The board meets at least quarterly and operates with a dedicated workload.

Policy and procedures

A copy of the policy statement will be displayed permanently on the noticeboard in the foyer.

Each worker with children and young people whether paid or voluntary will be given a full copy of the policy and procedures and will be required to read them and sign to agree that they follow them.

A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member of the church, the parents or carers of any child or young person from the church or any other person associated with the church.

The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed at least annually.

The policy statement will be read annually at a church meeting together with a report on the outcome of the annual review.

This policy governs the principles of our safeguarding in all areas of the life and work of SBC. Different areas of ministry have adopted slightly different procedures according to the circumstances of their work. Workers should refer to the appropriate set of procedures when applying this policy.

Adopted at Gathering on October 21st 2015