



Safeguarding Policy For Children And Vulnerable Adults

Mortimer West End Chapel

Chapel Lane

Padworth Common

Reading

RG7 4QE

The Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion is mindful of the teaching in Holy Scripture regarding the nurture of the young, and the care that should be extended to those in our midst who may be vulnerable in any way. Jesus himself reminds us in Matthew 19: 14 that, ". . .the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

We believe that each person is made in the image of God and is uniquely loved by Him, and are committed to the nurture, protection and safeguarding of all, especially children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child stipulates that, "children have the right to be protected from all forms of violence. They must be kept safe from harm. They must be given proper care by those looking after them". The Children Act 2004 places a duty on organisations to safeguard and promote the well-being of children. In accordance with legal requirements and biblical principles, we at Mortimer West End Chapel commit ourselves to this safeguarding policy and to the development of sound procedures to ensure we implement our policy well.

Definitions:

- A child is anyone under the age of 18.
- A vulnerable adult is anyone over the age of 18 who due to disability, mental function, age or illness or traumatic circumstances, may not be able to take care or protect themselves from significant harm or exploitation.

Prevention and reporting of abuse

It is the duty of each member of Mortimer West End Chapel to help prevent the abuse of children and adults at risk and respond to concerns about the well-being of children and adults at risk. Any abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected will be reported in accordance

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

Safer recruitment, support and supervision of workers

Mortimer West End Chapel will exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children and adults at risk, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safekeeping of children and adults at risk. All workers will be checked by the DBS.

Respecting children and adults at risk

Mortimer West End Chapel will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and adults at risk so that all children and adults are shown the respect that is due to them. Anyone displaying behaviour deemed to be of concern to the leadership will immediately be removed from working with children and vulnerable adults.

Safer working practices

Mortimer West End Chapel is committed to providing an environment that is as safe as possible for children and adults at risk and will adopt ways of working with them that promote their safety and well-being. This includes the development of procedures and guidelines to cover all activities engaged with children and vulnerable adults.

A safer community

Mortimer West End Chapel is committed to the prevention of bullying. We will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any individuals who may pose a risk to children, young people and adults at risk in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

Safeguarding contacts at Mortimer West End Chapel

The church has appointed the following individuals to form part of the church safeguarding team:

Anna Cremer-Evans- Safeguarding Co-ordinator

She will supervise the recruitment of workers, advise the church on any matters related to safeguarding of children and adults at risk and take the appropriate action if abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Phone: 07884455876 Email: anna@cremer-evans.co.uk

Catherine Jenkins- Deputy Safeguarding Co-ordinator

She will assist the Safeguarding Co-ordinator in helping the church on matters related to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk and take the appropriate action if abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Mark Jenkins- Safeguarding Trustee

He will raise the profile of safeguarding within the church and oversee and monitor the implementation of the safeguarding policy and procedures on behalf of the church trustees.

Should safeguarding concerns be raised about Mortimer West End Chapel leadership, the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion must be informed immediately.

Oi Ling Southouse - Connexion Trustee**Putting our policy into practice**

- Each worker with children and/or adults at risk will be given a full copy of the safeguarding policy and relevant procedures and will be asked to sign to confirm that they will follow them. All workers will undergo a DBS check.
- A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member of, or other person associated with the church.
- The safeguarding team will perform a yearly check to ensure that this policy and all procedures are being followed.
- Mortimer West End Chapel will be reminded of this policy annually at the church AGM, together with a report on the outcome of the annual safeguarding review.
- Mortimer West End Chapel leadership team will review this policy and all procedures every three years to ensure they are updated, relevant and reflective of best practise.
- A safeguarding poster will be available on a noticeboard inside the church building.

Signed by Elders:

Date: