



SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT FOR BRIGHT CITY CHURCH*

Our vision

The vision of Bright City Church is to empower, equip and release God's people into their full potential, so they may become a light to Ashford, Kent and to the nations. We believe in sharing this light with family and friends, with government, schools, hospitals, businesses and wherever opportunities arise.

Our church is home to over 20 nationalities and we choose to celebrate our diversity and shared faith with joy, music, colour and vibrancy. We are an active church; we enjoy fellowship with God and with each other. We share a commitment to our country, our town, our community and our members. We are honoured to work with other churches in Ashford meeting physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

In fulfilling our vision, we:

- Welcome children and vulnerable adults into the life of our community
- Run activities for children and vulnerable adults
- Make our premises available to organisations working with children and vulnerable adults

Our safeguarding responsibilities

Bright City Church recognises its responsibilities in safeguarding all children, young people and vulnerable adults, regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability.

As members of Bright City Church we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all associated with the church and will pray for them regularly. In pursuit of this, we commit ourselves to this policy and to the development of sound procedures to ensure we implement our policy well.

Prevention and reporting of abuse

It is the duty of each church member to help prevent the abuse of children and vulnerable adults, and the duty of each church member to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and vulnerable adults. 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

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

Respecting children and vulnerable adults

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

Safer working practices

The church is committed to providing an environment that is as safe as possible for children and vulnerable adults and will adopt ways of working with them that promote their safety and well-being.

A safer community

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

Safeguarding contact points within Bright City Church

Bright City Church has appointed the following individuals to form part of the church safeguarding team:

Pastor Yetunde Areeson, Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS)

She will advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Phone number: 07932225162 Email address: akejuyetunde@yahoo.com

Pastor Fani Mukutuma Deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding (DDPS)

He will assist the Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS) in helping the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Phone number: 07886613179 Email address: fmukutuma@yahoo.co.uk

Pastor Ian Fowkes, Safeguarding Trustee

** Bright City Church is the working name of Ashford Christian Fellowship a registered charity (1157611) and company (9021910)*