

Riverside Church Taunton



Safeguarding Statement - Children and Adults at risk

for Riverside Church Taunton.

The Pastors and Trustees of Riverside Church Taunton (RCT) recognise the importance of its ministry /work with children and young people and adults in need of protection and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

Riverside Church Taunton is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk and ensuring their well-being.

Specifically:

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of adults at risk and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise that the personal dignity and rights of adults at risk and will ensure all our policies and procedures will reflect this.
- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the place of worship/organisation.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with children and adults at risk.
- We believe every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that children we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.

We are committed to:

Following statutory and specialist guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults and will ensure that all volunteers within RCT will work within the agreed procedure of our safeguarding policy.

- Implementing the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005 and all other relevant legislation.
- Supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake this work.
- Ensuring that we are keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by HCW.
- Supporting all in RCT affected by abuse.

We recognise:

- Children's Social Services has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a vulnerable adult.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We will review this statement and our policy and procedures 2 yearly.

If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult then speak to one of the following who have been approved as Safeguarding Leads for Riverside Church Taunton

David Usher - Child Safeguarding Coordinator

Position vacant - Deputy Child Safeguarding Coordinator

David Usher - Adult Safeguarding Coordinator

Position vacant - Deputy Adult Safeguarding Coordinator

A hard copy of the full policy and procedures is available from the RCT office (see details above).