

# CHINGFORD MOUNT BAPTIST CHURCH

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## Church Child Protection Policy

### Statement

This statement was agreed at the Annual General Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2014.

It will be read annually at the church's Annual General Meeting where progress in carrying it out will be monitored.

- We are committed in supporting our parents and families.
- As members of this Church, we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all, especially children and young people.
- It is the responsibility of each one of us to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children and young people, and to report any abuse discovered or suspected.
- We recognise that our work with children and young people is the responsibility of the whole Church.
- The Church is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who work with children and young people and to providing supervision.
- The Church is committed to the following Home Office Code of Practice 'Safe from Harm' and adopts the guidelines and procedures published by the Baptist Union of Great Britain in its booklet 'Safe to grow'.
- Each worker with children and young people must know the recommendations and undertake to observe them. Each shall be given a copy of the Church's agreed procedures and good practice guidelines.
- As part of our commitment to children and young people, the Church has appointed Christine Long and Iota Phillips-Callender to be their advocates. Their role will be explained to children and their names, addresses and telephone numbers publicly displayed.

**Children and young people are part of our Church today. They have much to give as well as to receive. We will listen to them. As we nurture them in worship, learning and in community life we will respect the wishes and feelings of the children and young people.**



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## Church Child Protection Policy

### Church Statement

The Church has an ongoing children's and young person's ministry. The Church takes seriously its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and young people.

### Church Mission

As part of the mission the Church is committed to:

- Listening to, relating effectively and valuing children and young people whilst ensuring their protection with Church activities.
- Encouraging and supporting parents/carers.
- Ensuring that children's/youth workers are given support and training.
- Having a system for dealing with concerns and possible abuse.
- Maintaining good links with statutory care authorities.

### Areas of Policy

The Church recognises that many children and young people today are the victims of neglect, physical, sexual and emotional abuse. Accordingly the Church has adopted the policy contained in this document, (hereafter referred to "the policy"). The policy sets out agreed guidelines relating to the following areas:

- Responding to allegations of abuse, including those against leaders or members of the Church.
- Appointing children's/youth workers.
- Supervision of activities and practical issues.
- Helping victims of abuse.
- Working with offenders.

The Church recognises the need to build constructive links with the childcare agencies. Accordingly, these guidelines have been prepared in consultation with PCCA's Churches Child Protection Advisory Service.

The local Social Services telephone number between 9am and 5pm (Monday to Friday) is **020 8496 2310** (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub Team), the out of hours number is **020 8496 3000**

