

Safeguarding Statement agreed by Restore Community Church Leadership.

The Leadership of Restore Community Church recognises the importance of its ministry and work with children and young people and adults in need of protection and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

Restore Community Church is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults with care and support needs and ensuring their wellbeing.

Specifically:

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect of children and young people (those under 18 years of age) and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We believe every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that children with whom we have contact know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.
- All children and young people have the right to be treated with respect, to be listened to and to be protected from all forms of abuse.
- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of adults who have care and support needs and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of adults who find themselves victims of forced marriage or modern slavery and will ensure all our policies and procedures reflect this.
- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of Restore Community Church unless they pose a risk to the safety of those we serve.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of all those who will work with children, young people and adults at risk.

We are committed to:

- Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children and adults and good practice recommendations.
- Respecting the rights of children as described in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Implementing the requirements of legislation in regard to people with disabilities.

- Ensuring our staff and volunteers adhere to the agreed practices and procedures of our safeguarding policy
- Keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Supporting the Safeguarding Coordinator(s) in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children and adults with care and support needs.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by Restore Community Church.
- Nurturing, protecting and safeguarding children, young people and adults.
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring and providing supervision to all those who undertake this work.
- Supporting all in Restore Community Church affected by abuse.
- Adopting and following the 'Safe and Secure' safeguarding standards developed by thirtyone:eight.

We recognise:

- Children's Social Services (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about an adult with care and support needs.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Where working outside of the UK, concerns will be reported to the appropriate agencies in the country in which we operate, and their procedures followed, and in addition we will report concerns to our Safeguarding Coordinator.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We will review this statement and our policy and procedures annually. The next review is scheduled for a year from the sign-off date below.

A copy of the full policy and procedures can be requested from: info@restorcc.org.uk

Signed (on behalf of Restore Community Church Leadership)

Reinart Van Zyl

Date: 14th February 2021