

Safeguarding Principles



Statement of Safeguarding Principles

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Principles for the Gathering Place Church & Community Centre

We are committed:

- through the ministry and community centre activities, to the care and nurture of, all children, young people and adults
- to the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable and to ensure informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse
- to establishing safe, caring communities which provide an inclusive environment.

We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church and Community centre, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.

We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.

We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry model of informed pastoral care.

We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church and local community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice. If you have any concerns that a child or vulnerable adult may be at risk, in the first instance, please contact the Church Safeguarding Officer, Cathie Steele by email cathieesteele@gmail.com and if necessary the minister, Rev. Catherine Brobbey (Tel: 01446 406262) or Centre Manager, Sharon Evans (Tel: 01446 750700). **The local complaints officer are Revs Phil & Carole Challis, Superintendent Ministers of The Vale of Glamorgan Circuit, Landline: 01446 678730.**

The entire safeguarding policy is available for all to see, feel free to contact us on 01446 750700 for a copy.

Safeguarding Policy: The Gathering Place Methodist Church & Community Centre (Saint Athan)
