

Eastern Baptist Association SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT 2019

The trustees of EBA care about the safeguarding of everyone who comes into contact with churches in membership with the Association, particularly children, young people and adults at risk.

The trustees recognise that they have no power to enforce good practice in safeguarding upon member churches and nor can they accept any responsibility for safeguarding in churches as this is the responsibility of the leaders of each local church.

However, the trustees of EBA actively encourage each Baptist church in membership to take safeguarding seriously, ensuring that the children, young people and adults at risk it is in contact with are kept safe from harm.

The trustees expect each church to have a robust safeguarding policy in place and to act in line with that policy. To this end, the trustees actively signpost churches to the model policies on the Baptists Together website. The Baptists Together website provides up to date safeguarding policies and guidelines which EBA would commend to all churches within the Association as a minimum standard of safeguarding. The trustees themselves are following the Baptists Together safeguarding policies and guidelines.

The Trustees have enabled a network of safeguarding trainers who are able to provide training for level 2 and level 3 for churches within the Association using the Baptists Together *Excellence in Safeguarding* material. The delivery of safeguarding training at appropriate levels around the Association is overseen by the Regional Minister with oversight of Safeguarding, administered by the Association secretary and reported directly to the Trustees. It is expected that each church will also show the Baptists Together *Excellence in Safeguarding_Level 1* video in the church at least once a year.

Trustees and staff are subject to the DBS checks appropriate for their role and are expected to undertake *Excellence in Safeguarding* training to at least level 3.

The Trustees of EBA undertake to exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of any paid or volunteer staff working with children, young people or vulnerable adults, for example at Association events. This includes ensuring that DBS checks are undertaken at an appropriate level and that they have received an appropriate level of Safeguarding Training.

EBA's designated Regional Minister with oversight of safeguarding is Rev. Nick Lear

The deputy safeguarding designated person is

EBA's designated Trustee for Safeguarding is Melanie Pike.

Leaders in local churches are responsible for:

- Putting a safeguarding policy in place and ensuring that it is disseminated appropriately and implemented and adhered to in all aspects.
- The activities undertaken by the church on its own premises and elsewhere and for ensuring that outside groups using their premises have appropriate policies to which they adhere.

Adopted by the Trustees on 11 February 2019