



## **Inclusive Church: Policy Statement for the safeguarding of children, vulnerable people and registered vulnerable adults.**

As trustees of Inclusive Church, we commit the Inclusive Church Network to the support, nurture, protection and safeguarding of all, especially the young, the vulnerable and registered vulnerable adults. We recognise that any work with children, young people, vulnerable people and registered vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the whole organisation. Inclusive Church is fully committed to acting within current legislation, guidance, national frameworks and any relevant local safeguarding procedures, and we will also endeavour to act in an open, transparent and accountable way in working in partnership with the Children and Adult Social Care Services, the Police, Probation Services and other relevant agencies to safeguard children, vulnerable people and registered vulnerable adults, and assist in bringing to justice anyone who has committed an offence against them.

1. We will ensure that all necessary checks are made to promote the safe selection and recruitment of paid workers and volunteers with children, young people, vulnerable people and registered vulnerable adults, and provide the necessary supervision, support and training to them, in order that they can undertake their roles effectively.
2. The National Coordinator must have a current enhanced DBS certificate, and this must be renewed every three years. A decision about the need for other staff to have a DBS certificate is at the discretion of the officers of Inclusive Church. IC would not normally require volunteers to have a DBS certificate, but the officers may require this in relevant circumstances.
3. We will respond without delay to every concern raised that a child, young person, vulnerable person or registered vulnerable adult may have been harmed, or be at risk of harm; or about the behaviour of an adult or child.
4. We will co-operate with the relevant church authorities and appropriate statutory agencies during any investigation into abuse, including when allegations are made against a member of the Inclusive Church network.

5. We will ensure that pastoral care is made available to children, vulnerable people and registered vulnerable adults and their families and to any member of Inclusive Church against whom an allegation is made.

6. We will ensure, in partnership with other agencies, that care and supervision is provided for any member of Inclusive Church known to have offended against a child or vulnerable person or registered vulnerable adult, or known to pose a risk to them.

7. We are committed to reviewing our policy annually, and, as part of this, to check that any Safeguarding procedures are up-to-date and relevant.

Any safeguarding concerns should be reported either to our National Coordinator: [office@inclusive-church.org](mailto:office@inclusive-church.org) or to our chair: [dianna.gwilliams@btopenworld.com](mailto:dianna.gwilliams@btopenworld.com)

Approved at Trustees 20.6.17