

Policy Statement

Battle Baptist Church

Policy statement on children, young people and the church

This statement is agreed at the Annual General Meeting held in April.

It will be presented annually at the Annual General Meeting where progress in carrying it out will be monitored.

- As members of this church, we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all, especially children and young people.
- We recognise that our work with children and young people is not just the concern of those who work regularly with them but of every member of the church.
- The church is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who work with children and young people, and to providing supervision.
- 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.
- The church is committed to following the 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. This will include that every adult who works with our children and young people should have a CRB check.
- 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 including the SEBA Child Protection Training Manual.
- As part of our commitment to children and young people, the church has appointed Mrs. Jo Garlick and Mr. John Southam & Mrs Jenny Dudgeon to be their Designated Persons for Safeguarding. Their role will be regularly explained to children, and their names(s), address(es) and phone number(s) publicly displayed in the church premises.

Children and young people are part of (or belong to) 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 children and young people.