



Leadership Safeguarding Statement

The Leadership of Forefront Community Church - hereafter referred to as The Leadership - recognises the importance of its ministry/work with children and young people, and adults with care and support needs, and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

The following statement was agreed by The Leadership on: 8/4/24
Forefront Community Church is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults and of ensuring their well-being.

Specifically:

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the abuse and neglect of children, young people and adults and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We believe every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to ensure that children we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of adults and will ensure all our policies and procedures reflect this.
- We believe everyone should enjoy the opportunity to participate in the life of Forefront 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, and adults with care and support needs.

We are committed to:

- Following statutory denominational and specialist guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults and will ensure that as a place of worship/organisation all workers will work within the agreed procedure of our safeguarding policy.
- Implementing the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005, Equality Act 2010 and all other relevant legislation.
- Keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by Forefront Community Church.
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring and providing supervision to all those who undertake this work.
- Supporting all in the place of Forefront Community Church affected by abuse.

We recognise:

- Children's Social Services has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care 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.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We will review this statement and our policy and procedures annually.

If you have any concerns for a child or for an adult who has care and support needs, then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding co-ordinators for Forefront Community Church.

Laura Dimon Child Safeguarding Coordinator
Rachel Basso Deputy Child Safeguarding Coordinator
Dave Sutcliffe Adult Safeguarding Coordinator
Christine Smith Deputy Adult Safeguarding Coordinator

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from Forefront Community Centre.

Signed on behalf of The Leadership

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'D. Sutcliffe'.

Date

8/4/24