

The United Reformed Church

Safeguarding statement for Solihull URC



**GOOD
PRACTICE 6
D2**

The United Reformed Church (URC) is committed to safeguarding in every area of its life and ministry. Safeguarding is the action taken to promote and protect the well-being and human rights of individuals.

This means we will:

- Do all we can to create and maintain a safe and caring environment for all people
- Respond promptly and effectively to any form of abuse and neglect, including reporting abuse to statutory agencies when necessary
- Seek to prevent abuse in any form from occurring. We will seek to identify individuals who may pose a risk to others and take necessary actions to minimise risk whilst supporting these individuals in our communities when safe to do so.

If you wish to discuss a safeguarding concern, please contact:

Melanie Tillman. Church Safeguarding Coordinator Tel: 07511084840

Email : safeguardingcoordinatorSURC@outlook.com

. In accordance with GP6, the West Midlands Synod -

- will encourage good practice in safeguarding in local churches within the Synod. We will seek to establish a caring environment in which there is an informed vigilance about the dangers of abuse.
- will appoint a Safeguarding Officer and encourage and support local churches in appointing Church Safeguarding Co-ordinators, whilst recognising that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We will organise activities in such a way as to promote a safe environment and minimise the risk of harm to children and adults.
- will follow a safer recruitment process for the selection and appointment of people to work with children or adults in need of protection, whether voluntary or paid, lay or ordained.
- is committed to providing support and supervision, resources and training, to those who work with children and adults.
- will use rigorous and careful supervision to protect people from the risks associated with known offenders within the Synod.
- will respond appropriately to all concerns and allegations of abuse, including referring to the Police and Social Care if necessary, either the Adult or Children's teams.
- will co-operate with the Police, Children's and Adult's Services in any investigation, will follow multi agency decisions and will maintain confidentiality of any investigations to those directly involved.

All concerns or allegations concerning West Midlands Synod activities, staff or volunteers should be addressed to the West Midlands Synod Safeguarding Officer:

Name: Donna Gordon

Contact phone number: 07458 304275

Email address: safeguarding@urcwestmidlands.org.uk

For a full statement on the URC's approach to Safeguarding, visit

<https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Paper-T4-SAG-Safeguarding-Policy-Statement.pdf>

To view Good Practice 6, the URC's Safeguarding Guidance document please visit

<https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Good-Practice-6-2023.pdf>

● **Good Practice 6 – Resource D2** ●