

Safeguarding



What is Safeguarding?

Definition:

Safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing and human rights by enabling their right to live in safety, free from harm, abuse and neglect.



Safeguarding Purpose in BOCF

- To keep church members, workers, volunteers, and visitors safe from harm, abuse, and neglect whilst working, volunteering within or attending BOCF.
- To support all church activities with up to date safeguarding practices.
- To continue to adopt greater measures of safeguarding for the more vulnerable i.e. where children are left in the care of BOCF

Definitions of Abuse and Signs of Abuse in Children and Young People

Definitions of Abuse	Signs of Abuse in Children & Young People
Physical abuse: Physical harm caused by hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or fabricating / deliberately inducing illness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Injuries in places not normally exposed to falls/rough games• Bruises, bites, burns, fractures that are inconsistent with the explanation given
Psychological or Emotional Abuse: persistent emotional maltreatment such as; silencing, mocking, imposing, bullying, exploiting, corrupting, inappropriate expectations, inappropriate overprotection / limitations, social exclusion, exposure to ill treatment of others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Behavioural changes/regression i.e. becomes withdrawn or clingy, sudden underachievement, lack of concentration, attention seeking• Depression, aggression, extreme anxiety, nervousness, frozen watchfulness, obsessions/phobia, persistent tiredness, running away, stealing, lying
Sexual Abuse: forcing or enticement of another into contact or non-contact sexual activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allegations of sexual abuse• Excessive sexual pre-occupation or detailed knowledge of adult sexual behaviour• Sexually provocative or age inappropriate sexual play, drawings or use of words• Eating disorders (anorexia, bulimia etc)
Neglect, or Act of Omission: persistent failure to meet basic physical and/or psychological needs of a dependent likely to result in impairment to health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inadequate care, i.e. under nourishment, failure to grow, constant hunger, stealing or gorging food, untreated illnesses, etc
Financial or material abuse: limiting or denying someone the ability to acquire, use or maintain their own money or assets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unexplained account withdrawals or disappearance of financial documents• Carers or professionals fail to account for expenses incurred on a person's behalf
Discriminatory abuse: unequal, unfair or disparaging treatment based on race, gender, disability or other protected characteristic.	Subjected to inappropriate remarks, comments or lack of respect, poor quality or avoidance of care
Institutional abuse: neglect, poor care and poor practices in an organisation that leads to mistreatment of people.	Subjected to <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of opportunity for social, educational or recreational activity• Sensory deprivation e.g. denial of use of spectacles or hearing aids• Missing documents and/or absence of individual care plans• Public discussion of private matter

Definitions of Abuse and Signs of Abuse in Vulnerable Adults

Definitions of Abuse	Signs of Abuse in Vulnerable Adults
Physical abuse: Physical harm caused by hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or fabricating / deliberately inducing illness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A history of unexplained falls, fractures, bruises, burns, minor injuries • Signs of under or over use of medication and/or medical problems unattended
Psychological or Emotional Abuse: persistent emotional maltreatment such as; silencing, mocking, imposing, bullying, exploiting, corrupting, inappropriate expectations, inappropriate overprotection / limitations, social exclusion, exposure to ill treatment of others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour changes i.e. withdrawn, agitated, anxious, tearful, fearful, flinching or frightened of making choices or expressing wishes • Unexplained paranoia and/or intimidated or subdued in the presence of a carer
Sexual Abuse: forcing or enticement of another into contact or non-contact sexual activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full or partial disclosure or hints of sexual abuse • Self-harming and/or unusual difficulty in walking or sitting • Pregnancy in a woman unable to consent to sex • Unexplained behaviour change or sexual behaviour
Neglect, or Act of Omission: persistent failure to meet basic physical and/or psychological needs of a dependent likely to result in impairment to health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malnutrition, weight loss and /or persistent hunger • Poor physical condition, poor hygiene and/or clothing in a poor condition • Failure to access appropriate health, educational services or social care
Financial or material abuse: limiting or denying someone the ability to acquire, use or maintain their own money or assets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disparity between assets and living conditions • Unexplained account withdrawals or disappearance of financial documents • Sudden inability to pay bills • Carers or professionals fail to account for expenses incurred on a person's behalf • Recent changes of deeds or title to property
Discriminatory abuse: unequal, unfair or disparaging treatment based on race, gender, disability or other protected characteristic.	Subjected to inappropriate remarks, comments or lack of respect, poor quality or avoidance of care
Institutional abuse: neglect, poor care and poor practices in an organisation that leads to mistreatment of people.	Subjected to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of flexibility or choice over meals, bed times, visitors, phone calls etc and/or lack of opportunity for social, educational or recreational activity • Inadequate medical care, misuse of medication and/or inappropriate use of restraint • Sensory deprivation e.g. denial of use of spectacles or hearing aids • Missing documents and/or absence of individual care plans • Public discussion of private matter

BOCF is committed to providing a caring and safe environment



BOCF Practices to support Safeguarding

1. During Sunday services and all church activities, BOCF maintains a hazzard-free environment and church facilities the vigilance of church officials uphold wellbeing.
2. Children who are in the care of BOCF are supervised by child-care professionals who have been vetted by BOCF and have passed a DBS check.
3. The Ark Toddlers' Group and Kidz Klub are run by child-care professionals and BOCF volunteers who have all passed a DBS check, with parents being present to provide extra observational support for their children.



Policies & Practice – are kept updated and made available to workers and volunteers

Safeguarding Awareness Training – is provided to workers and volunteers, members & visitors

Vigilance – is encouraged and practiced by BOCF members & visitors

Contact & Reporting – via Safeguarding Coordinator and completion of the BOCF Concern Form

Support - Counselling via Church leaders



How can we support Safeguarding in BOCF?

Be extra vigilant of children. Join in with supervision to ensure children remain in safe areas away from hazards that may harm them.

Leaders, Key Workers and Volunteers should stay familiar with the Safeguarding policy and procedures and undertake required Safeguarding training.

Report any concerns you have to the Safeguarding coordinator or Lead Pastor

Support senior members who might have restrictions in their mobility or understanding.

Contacts for BOCF Safeguarding concerns

Report all safeguarding concerns and allegation to;

- the Safeguarding Coordinator OR
- Lead Pastor

Carmen Franklin is the Safeguarding Coordinator for BOCF.

Pastor David Johnston is the Lead Pastor for BOCF.

Contact Email: bocfsafeguarding@aol.com

Contact Number: **07904 651 683**



Information on Safeguarding Support



BOCF Website –
<https://www.bocf.org.uk/>



Policies & Supporting bodies

Harrow Local Authority
Family care **020 8901 2690**

Adult Social Care office
between 9.00am and 5.00pm
020 8901 2680 and out of
hours **020 8424 0999.**

Who might be at risk of Abuse?

Everyone but mainly.....

- Vulnerable Children
- Vulnerable Adults



Vulnerable Children

A sensory, physical, learning disability or impairment;

Neglected

Unsupervised or monitored

In care, home or community

Vulnerable Adults

A sensory or physical disability or impairment

A learning disability

A physical illness

Mental ill health (including dementia), chronic or acute

Addiction to alcohol or drugs

the failing faculties in old age



How and when to make report

If you have concerns about a child or person facing abuse

- Complete the **BOCF Concern Form** - available at www.bocf.org.uk or via the church office
 - Contact the Lead Pastor / Safeguarding Coordinator
 - If you would prefer to talk to someone outside BOCF, please contact **Adrian Galley, Safeguarding Officer ACUK. 07817 409 635** or adrian.galley@apostolic-church.org
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Details to share on BOCF Concern Form

- Name and email of person (if known)
- Email (your email)
- DOB of person (if known)
- Date of incident
- Ministry and location that incident occurred
- Concern
- Full description of the concern
- Action taken
- Your name and contact number
- Date of report

Useful Contacts - Children

Stop it now!

- 0808 1000 900
- help@stopitnow.org.uk
- www.stopitnow.org.uk

Kidscape

- Parent advice line: 020 7823 5430 020 7730 3300
- www.kidscape.org.uk

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP)

- 0870 000 3344 33
- www.ceop.gov.uk

Useful Contacts - Adults

Age UK

- Offering advice and support for those in the later stages of life.
- 0800 678 1174, www.ageuk.org.uk

Action on Elder Abuse

- Advice line to assist reporting elder abuse.
- 080 8808 8141, www.elderabuse.org.uk

Care Quality Commission

- They monitor, inspect and regulate services to make sure they meet fundamental standards of quality and safety and publish what they find, including performance ratings to help people choose care.
- National Customer Service Centre 03000 616161, www.cqc.org.uk

Prospects

- Christian organisation for people with learning difficulties.
- 0118 950 8781, info@prospects.org.uk

Through the Roof

- Equipping churches to provide opportunities to those with disabilities.
- 01372 737040, www.throughtheroof.org

Useful Contacts - Adults

Mind

- Provide advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem, they campaign to improve services, raise awareness and promote understanding.
- 020 8519 2122
- www.mind.org.uk

Restored

- An international Christian alliance working to transform relationships and end violence against women.
- 0208 943 7706
- www.restoredrelationships.org

Victim Support

- Support victims of crime
- 08 08 16 89111
- www.victimsupport.org.uk

National Autistic Society

- Supporting people and families living with autism.
- 08 08 800 4104

Requirements for Child Supervision

0 to 2 years

1 adult to 3 children

2 to 4 years

1 adult to 4 children

5 to 11 years

1 adult to 8 children

11 and over

1 adult to 10 children

Requirements for child participation in BOCF groups

- Consent form signed by a parent, should be completed when children or young people join a group. (Available on BOCF website)
- Details of any regular medication, medical problems, or disability, which may affect involvement in an activity, should be included on the consent form.