

Child Protection & Safeguarding - Policy Statement

Morden Baptist Church (MBC) is a church of ordinary people who are seeking to live their lives out by following Jesus and the way He lived. We believe that every child, young person and vulnerable adult is of infinite value to God and therefore take their protection seriously. MBC recognises the importance of ministry to children, young people and vulnerable adults and its responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of the most vulnerable in our communities. We believe that safeguarding is central to our Gospel Mission and should be integral to all aspects of our work with children, young people and vulnerable adults who are entrusted to our care.

As part of our mission, Morden Baptist Church is committed to:

- Valuing, listening to and respecting children, young people and vulnerable adults as well as promoting their welfare and protection.
- Safe recruitment, supervision and training for all who come into contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- Adopting a procedure for dealing with concerns about possible abuse and providing support to anyone affected.
- Any volunteer who will have direct contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults will have completed an enhanced records check in accordance with the guide lines produced by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

MBC acknowledges that children, young people and vulnerable adults can be the victims of all forms of abuse, including spiritual abuse. All forms of abuse are associated with the misuse of power and the absence of a relationship built on mutual respect. Under no circumstances will any team member carry out their own investigation into an allegation or suspicion of abuse.

The person in receipt of allegations or suspicions of abuse will do the following:

- Report any concern as soon as possible to the Child Protection Co-ordinator (Darren Powell).
- Suspicions will not be discussed with anyone other than the Child Protection Co-ordinator and professionals from the Baptist Union / London Baptist Association where appropriate.
- A written record of the concerns will be made in accordance with these MBC procedures and kept in a secure place whilst the Children Protection Co-ordinator investigates the allegations/situation.

Darren Powell

Children & Families Worker
(Child Protection Co-ordinator)

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