

# SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Rickstones Church acknowledges our responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care. This includes those who are church members and those who regularly attend our services, as well as those who attend groups or events that the church runs and those group leaders.

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse and neglect of children and young people (those under the age of 18), and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We believe that every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to ensure children we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.
- All children and young people have the right to be treated with respect, to be listened to and to be protected from all forms of abuse.
- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of adults who have care and support needs, and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We believe all adults should enjoy, and have access to, every aspect of the life of the church unless they pose a risk to the safety of those we serve.

## **We are committed to**

- Taking proper care in the appointment of all those who will work on behalf of the church with children, young people and adults with care and support needs.
- Ensuring that workers adhere to the agreed procedures of our Safeguarding Policy and the guidelines established in our Code of Conduct.
- Supporting the Safeguarding Coordinator (and Deputy) in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children, young people and adults with care and support needs.
- Supporting parents and families and nurturing, protecting and safeguarding children and young people.
- Supporting all who come into this church who are affected by abuse.

If you have any concerns for a child or adult with care and support needs, then speak to one of the following who have been approved as Safeguarding Coordinators for this Church:

MRS BETHANY DIAPER

Safeguarding Coordinator

MRS TINA CHIPPERFIELD

Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator