



Leeds Christian Community Trust **Safeguarding Policy** **Statement**

The Purpose and Scope of this Policy Statement

Leeds Christian Community Trust (LCCT) is committed to promoting the welfare and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults throughout its work and activities believing that children, young people and vulnerable adults have a right to be safe and protected from abuse, neglect and witnessing mistreatment of other children and adults in the projects under our umbrella. LCCT also has a commitment to valuing, listening to and respecting children, young people and vulnerable adults. All Trustees, staff, Management/Steering groups, project leaders/workers, and volunteers are required to abide by the Safeguarding policy statement, and to follow its guidance whenever their work brings them into contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive Leeds Christian Community Trust's (LCCT) services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- to provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

This statement applies to anyone working on behalf of LCCT, all Trustees, staff, Management/Steering groups, project leaders/workers, and volunteers

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation is available from nspcc.org.uk/learning.

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents, including: •

- Role description for the designated safeguarding officer •
- Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person •
- Managing allegations against staff and volunteers •
- Recording concerns and information sharing •
- Child protection records retention and storage •

- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers •
- Behaviour codes for children and young people •
- Photography and sharing images guidance •
- Safer recruitment •
- Online safety •
- Anti-bullying •
- Managing complaints •
- Whistleblowing •
- Health and safety •
- Induction, training, supervision and support •
- Adult to child supervision ratios

We believe that: •

- Children, young people and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all Children, young people and vulnerable adults, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that: •

- the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take
- all children, young people and vulnerable adults, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse •
- some children, young people and vulnerable adults are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- recognise the additional needs of children, young people and vulnerable adults from minority ethnic groups and disabled children, young people and vulnerable adults and the barriers they may face, for example with communication or the impact of discrimination. •
- working in partnership with children, young people, vulnerable adults, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We will seek to keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them •
- appointing a nominated child protection lead for children, young people and vulnerable adults, a lead Trustee for safeguarding •
- adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers •
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently
- recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made

- recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance [more information about this is available from the Information Commissioner's Office: ico.org.uk/for-organisations] ·
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions ·
- making sure that children, young people, vulnerable adults and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern ·
- using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately ·
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise ·
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place ·
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, vulnerable adults, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance ·
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers children, young people, vulnerable adults and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact Details

Name of Safeguarding Officer is: **Janice Brown**

Email: info@lcct.org.uk

Name of Safeguarding Trustee: **Theo Sheridan-Watts**

Email: theo.sheridan-watts@wellspringstogether.org.uk

Telephone number: Tel: 0113 3508622

Mobile Number: 07557023789

Emergency Contact No: 07557023789

Useful Contacts

- Leeds Social Care. For an issue about a child call 0113 222 4403. During Office hours (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm) - 0113 376 0336 and provide them with as much information as possible
- If you need to call Leeds Social Care outside of normal office hours call the emergency team on (out of hours) 0113 376 0469 or email childrensedt@leeds.gov.uk
- For an issue about a **vulnerable adult** call 0113 222 44 01. Emergency Duty Team: 07712 106 378 (for urgent concerns, outside of the Contact Centre hours)
- NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000 or email help@nspcc.org.uk
- British Sign Language: www.leeds.gov.uk/accessibility

- If **urgent action** is needed because you suspect an immediate risk of harm call the police on 999

General

- The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service
- Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership - www.leedsscp.org.uk
- Thirtyone:eight (formerly known as CCPAS) thirtyoneeight.org 03 03 003 11 11
- Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board www.leedssafeguardingadults.org.uk

This policy statement was reviewed on 16/04/2020

Date of next review July 2021