

# Caterham Baptist Church

## Safeguarding Policy



**July 2024  
v.2**

Compiled by Fi Jarman and Dominic Squibb

## **Section 1**

### **Caterham Baptist Church**

## **Section 2:**

**Introduction**

**Our commitment**

## **Section 3:**

**Understanding abuse and neglect**

**Safer recruitment**

**Safeguarding training**

**Management of workers – Code of conduct**

**Practice guidelines**

**Working in partnership**

## **Section 4**

### **Responding to allegations of abuse**

**Detailed procedures where there is a concern about a child**

**Detailed procedures where there is a concern that an adult needs protection**

**Allegations of abuse against a person who works with children/young people**

**Allegations of abuse against a person who works with adults with care and support needs**

## **Section 5**

### **Pastoral Care**

**Supporting those affected by abuse**

**Working with offenders and those who may pose a risk**

### **Adoption of the policy**

## **Appendices**

**Code of conduct**

**Statutory definitions of abuse (Children)**

**Statutory definitions of abuse (Adults)**

## **Section 1**

### **Caterham Baptist Church**

Caterham Baptist Church (hereinafter CBC)

4–6 Beechwood Road

Caterham

Surrey

CR3 6NA

Tel no: 01883 342711

General email address: [admin@caterhambaptist.org.uk](mailto:admin@caterhambaptist.org.uk)

Minister's name: Jonathan Bailey

Telephone number/email:

01883 342711, [safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk)

Safeguarding Coordinator: Fi Jarman

Telephone number/email:

[safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk), 01883342711

Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator: Dominic Squibb

07854650893; [safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk)

Charity Number: 1135414

## **Section 2: Introduction**

The standards and behaviours may be referred to as the culture of the organisation or “the way we do things around here”.

“The culture of a charity goes beyond mere compliance with legal and regulatory demands. Charity governance is most effective when it provides assurances not just that legal requirements are met, but that the behaviour of people working for the charity, and those who come into contact with it, is proper and ethical. Culture, alongside good governance, can be pivotal to whether a charity achieves its stated object” (ICSA The Governance Institute, 2017)

### **Positions of Trust**

All adults working with children, young people and vulnerable adults are in a position of trust. All those in positions of trust need to understand the power this can give them over those they care for and the responsibility they have because of this relationship.

It is vital that all workers ensure they do not, even unknowingly, use their position of power and authority inappropriately. They should always maintain professional boundaries and avoid behaviour which could be misinterpreted.

As of April 2022 it is illegal (England and Wales)(Northern Ireland) for those in Positions of Trust in a faith setting to engage in sexual activity with a 16 or 17 year old under their care or supervision.

The following Safeguarding Policy and Statement aims, to not only meet the requirements of ensuring a safe environment for those accessing activities in our organisation but to also build an open culture where:

- those who lead do so by example,
- are committed to the safeguarding of all
- those that work or volunteer are safely recruited and trained for their roles.
- there are accountability structures
- with codes of conduct
- the values of the organisation are embedded in its day to day actions and behaviours of its people
- and there is open communication

### **Our commitment**

As a Leadership we recognise the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children, young people and adults. We acknowledge that children, young people and adults can be the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect. We accept the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant of Human Rights, which states that everyone is entitled to “all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status”. We also concur with the Convention on the Rights of the Child which states that children should be able to develop their full potential, free from hunger and want, neglect and abuse. They have a right to be protected from “all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal

guardian(s), or any other person who has care of the child.” As a Leadership we have therefore adopted the procedures set out in this safeguarding policy in accordance with statutory guidance. We are committed to build constructive links with statutory and voluntary agencies involved in safeguarding.

A model safeguarding statement for display can be found in APPENDIX 1.

The policy and any attached practice guidelines are based on the ten safeguarding standards published by Thirtyone:eight ([thirtyoneeight.org/ten-standards](http://thirtyoneeight.org/ten-standards))

CBC has long-established ministries for children and youth. As a Leadership we recognise the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children, young people and adults. We acknowledge that children, young people and adults can be the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, exploitation and neglect. We accept the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant of Human Rights, which states that everyone is entitled to “all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status”. We also concur with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that children should be able to develop their full potential, free from hunger and want, neglect and abuse. They have a right to be protected from “all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s), or any other person who has care of the child.” As a Leadership we have therefore adopted the procedures set out in this safeguarding policy in accordance with statutory guidance. We are committed to building constructive links with statutory and voluntary agencies involved in safeguarding.

The policy and any attached practice guidelines are based on the ten **Safe and Secure** safeguarding standards published by thirtyone:eight (an independent Christian charity, which helps individuals, organisations, charities, faith and community groups to protect vulnerable people from abuse).

The Leadership undertakes to:

- Endorse and follow all national and local safeguarding legislation and procedures, in addition to the international conventions outlined above;
- Provide ongoing safeguarding training for all its workers and will regularly review the operational guidelines attached;
- Ensure that the premises meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and all other relevant legislation, and that it is welcoming and inclusive;
- Support the Safeguarding Coordinator(s) in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children and adults with care and support needs; and
- The Leadership agrees not to allow the document to be copied by other organisations.

## Section 3

### Prevention

#### Understanding abuse and neglect

Defining child abuse or abuse against an adult is a difficult and complex issue. Abuse can occur when someone inflicts harm or fails to prevent harm. Children and adults in need of protection may be abused within a family, an institution or a community setting. Very often the abuser is known or in a trusted relationship with the child or adult.

To safeguard those in our places of worship and organisations we adhere to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and have as our starting point as a definition of abuse, Article 19:

*1. States Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child.*

*2. Such protective measures should, as appropriate, include effective procedures for the establishment of social programmes to provide necessary support for the child and for those who have the care of the child, as well as for other forms of prevention and for identification, reporting, referral, investigation, treatment and follow-up of instances of child maltreatment described heretofore, and, as appropriate, for judicial involvement.*

Also for adults, the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights with particular reference to Article 5:

*No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.*

#### Safer recruitment

The Leadership will ensure all paid workers will be appointed, trained, supported and supervised in accordance with government guidance on safe recruitment. This includes ensuring that:

- There is a written job description/person specification for the post;
- Those applying have completed an application form and a self-declaration form;

- Those shortlisted have been interviewed;
- Safeguarding has been discussed at the interview;
- Written references have been obtained, and followed up where appropriate;
- A disclosure and barring check (DBS) has been completed where necessary (we will comply with Code of Practice requirements concerning the fair treatment of applicants and the handling of information);
- Qualifications, where relevant, have been verified;
- A suitable training programme is provided for the successful applicant;
- The applicant has completed a probationary period; and
- The applicant has been given a copy of the organisation's safeguarding policy and knows how to report concerns.

### **Safeguarding training**

The Leadership is committed to ongoing safeguarding training and development opportunities for all workers and volunteers, developing a culture of awareness of safeguarding issues to help protect everyone. All our workers will receive induction training and undertake recognised safeguarding training on a regular basis.

The Leadership will also ensure that children and adults with care and support needs are provided with information on where to get help and advice in relation to abuse, discrimination, bullying or any other matter where they have a concern.

### **Management of workers – Code of conduct**

As a Leadership we are committed to supporting all workers and ensuring they receive support and supervision. All workers have been issued with a code of conduct towards children, young people and adults with care and support needs, and where applicable have a valid DBS certificate.

### **Practice guidelines**

As a place of worship working with children, young people and adults with care and support needs we wish to operate and promote good working practice. This will enable workers to run activities safely, develop good relationships and minimise the risk of false or unfounded accusation.



## **Working in partnership**

The diversity of organisations and settings means there can be great variation in practice when it comes to safeguarding children, young people and adults. This can be because of cultural tradition, belief and religious practice or understanding, for example, of what constitutes abuse.

We therefore have clear guidelines in regard to our expectations of those with whom we work in partnership, whether in the UK or not. We will discuss with all partners our safeguarding expectations and have a partnership agreement for safeguarding. It is also our expectation that any organisation using our premises as part of the letting agreement will have their own policy that meets thirtyone:eight's safeguarding standards.

We believe good communication is essential in promoting safeguarding, both to those we wish to protect, to everyone involved in working with children and adults, and to all those with whom we work in partnership. This safeguarding policy is just one means of promoting safeguarding.

## Section 4

### Responding to allegations of abuse

Under no circumstances should a volunteer or worker carry out their own investigation into an allegation or suspicion of abuse. Follow procedures as below:

If you suspect abuse or abuse is alleged it is important that you:

- Stay calm and try not to show shock or disbelief;
- Treat all information seriously;
- Remember your duty of care;
- Consider any immediate risks;
- Make a written account of the alert;
- Listen carefully to what the person is saying;
- Demonstrate empathy;
- Are aware of the possibility that medical evidence may be needed; and
- Tell the person that:
  - They did the right thing to tell you
  - You are treating the information seriously
  - It was not their fault
  - You will inform the appropriate person
  - You/CBC will take steps to protect and support them.

Do not:

- Press the person for more details, this will be done at a later date;
  - Stop someone who is freely recalling significant events, as they may not tell you again;
  - Make promises you cannot keep;
  - Contact the alleged abuser;
  - Be judgemental;
  - Ask leading questions;
  - Pass on the information to anyone other than those with a legitimate 'need to know', such as the Safeguarding Coordinator or Deputy;
  - Tamper with evidence; or
  - Put yourself at risk.
- The person in receipt of allegations or suspicions of abuse should report concerns as soon as possible to:

**Name: Fi Jarman** (hereinafter the "Safeguarding Coordinator")

**Tel:** 01883342711

**Email:** [safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk)

The above is nominated by the Leadership to act on their behalf in dealing with the allegation or suspicion of neglect or abuse, including referring the matter on to the statutory authorities.

- In the absence of the Safeguarding Coordinator or, if the suspicions in any way involve the Safeguarding Coordinator, then the report should be made to:

**Name: Dominic Squibb** (hereinafter the "Deputy")

**Tel:** 07854650893

**Email:** [safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk)

- **Name: Joathan Bailey** (hereinafter the "Deputy")
- **Tel:** 07979081196
- **Email:** [safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@caterhambaptist.org.uk)

If the suspicions implicate both the Safeguarding Coordinator and the Deputy, then the report should be made in the first instance to:

**thirtyone:eight** PO Box 133, Swanley, Kent, BR8 7UQ.

**Tel:** 0303 003 1111.

Alternatively contact Social Services or the Police.

- The Safeguarding Coordinator should contact the appropriate agency or they may first ring the thirtyone:eight helpline for advice. They should then contact social services in the area the child or adult lives.

### **Children's Social Services**

Surrey County Council Children's Social Services

**Tel:** 0300 470 9100

Out of hours tel: 01483 517898

Website

address:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/childrens-social-care/contact-childrens-services>

### **Adult Social Care**

**Tel:** 0300 470 9100

Out of hours tel: 01483 517898

Website address: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/adults/contact>

Police Protection team tel: 101

- The Safeguarding Coordinator may need to inform others depending on the circumstances and/or nature of the concern:
  - Chair or trustee responsible for safeguarding who may need to liaise with the insurance company or the charity commission to report a serious incident.

- Designated officer or LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) if the allegation concerns a worker or volunteer working with someone under 18.
- Suspicions must not be discussed with anyone other than those nominated above. A written record of the concerns should be made in accordance with these procedures and kept in a secure place.
- Although allegations or suspicions of abuse will normally be reported to the Safeguarding Coordinator, the absence of the Safeguarding Coordinator or Deputy should not delay referral to Social Services, the Police or taking advice from thirtyone:eight.
- The Leadership will support the Safeguarding Coordinator/Deputy in their role and accept that any information they may have in their possession will be shared in a strictly limited way on a need-to-know basis.
- It is, of course, the right of any individual as a citizen to make a direct referral to the safeguarding agencies or seek advice from thirtyone:eight, although the Leadership hope that members of CBC will use this procedure. If, however, the individual with the concern feels that the Safeguarding Coordinator/Deputy has not responded appropriately, or where they have a disagreement with the Safeguarding Coordinator(s) as to the appropriateness of a referral they are free to contact an outside agency direct. We hope by making this statement that the Leadership demonstrate its commitment to effective safeguarding and the protection of all those who are vulnerable.

The role of the Safeguarding Coordinator/Deputy is to collate and clarify the precise details of the allegation or suspicion, and pass this information on to statutory agencies that have a legal duty to investigate.

#### **Detailed procedures where there is a concern about a child:**

##### **Allegations of physical injury, neglect or emotional abuse**

If a child has a physical injury, a symptom of neglect or where there are concerns about emotional abuse, the Safeguarding Coordinator/Deputy will:

- Contact Children's Social Services (or thirtyone:eight) for advice in cases of deliberate injury, if concerned about a child's safety or if a child is afraid to return home;

- Not tell the parents or carers unless advised to do so, having contacted Children's Social Services;
- Seek medical help if needed urgently, informing the doctor of any suspicions;
- For lesser concerns (e.g. poor parenting), encourage parent/carer to seek help, but not if this places the child at risk of significant harm;
- Where the parent/carer is unwilling to seek help, offer to accompany them. In cases of real concern, if they still fail to act, contact Children's Social Services direct for advice; and
- Seek and follow advice given by thirtyone:eight (who will confirm their advice in writing) if unsure whether or not to refer a case to Children's Social Services.

### **Allegations of sexual abuse**

In the event of allegations or suspicions of sexual abuse, the Safeguarding Coordinator/Deputy will:

- Contact the Children's Social Services Department Duty Social Worker for children and families or Police Child Protection Team direct. They will NOT speak to the parent/carer or anyone else;
- Seek and follow the advice given by thirtyone:eight if for any reason they are unsure whether or not to contact Children's Social Services/Police. Thirtyone:eight will confirm its advice in writing for future reference.

### **Detailed procedures where there is a concern that an adult needs protection:**

**Suspicious or allegations of abuse or harm, including physical, sexual, organisational, financial, discriminatory, neglect, self-neglect, forced marriage, modern slavery, domestic abuse**

If there is concern about any of the above, the Safeguarding Coordinator/Deputy will:

- Contact the Adult Social Care Team who have responsibility under the Care Act 2014 to investigate allegations of abuse. Alternatively, thirtyone:eight can be contacted for advice.
- If the adult is in immediate danger or has sustained a serious injury, contact the Emergency Services, informing them of any suspicions.

If there is a concern regarding spiritual abuse, the Safeguarding Coordinator will:

- Identify support services for the victim, i.e. counselling or other pastoral support; and
- Contact thirtyone:eight and in discussion with them consider appropriate action with regard to the scale of the concern.

### **Allegations of abuse against a person who works with children/young people**

If an accusation is made against a worker (whether a volunteer or paid member of staff) while following the procedure outlined above, the Safeguarding Coordinator, in accordance with Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) procedures, will:

- Liaise with Children's Social Services in regard to the suspension of the worker;
- Make a referral to a designated officer formerly called a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) whose function is to handle all allegations against adults who work with children and young people whether in a paid or voluntary capacity; and
- Make a referral to the DBS for consideration of the person being placed on the barred list for working with children or adults with additional care and support needs. This decision should be informed by the LADO if they are involved.

### **Allegations of abuse against a person who works with adults with care and support needs**

The Safeguarding Coordinator will:

- Liaise with Adult Social Services with regard to the suspension of the worker; and
- Make a referral to the DBS following the advice of Adult Social Services.

The Care Act places the duty upon Adult Services to investigate situations of harm to adults with care and support needs. This may result in a range of options, including action against the person or organisation causing the harm, increasing the support for the carers or no further action if the 'victim' chooses for no further action and they have the capacity to communicate their decision. However, this is a decision for Adult Services to decide not the church.

## **Section 5**

### **Pastoral care**

#### **Supporting those affected by abuse**

The Leadership is committed to offering pastoral care, working with statutory agencies as appropriate and supporting all those who have been affected by abuse who have contact with or are part of CBC.

#### **Working with offenders and those who may pose a risk**

When someone attending CBC is known to have abused children, is under investigation or is known to be a risk to adults with care and support needs, the Leadership will supervise the individual concerned and offer pastoral care. In its safeguarding commitment to the protection of children and adults with care and support needs, the Leadership will set boundaries for that person that they will be expected to keep. These boundaries will be based on an appropriate risk assessment and through consultation with appropriate parties.



## **Adoption of the policy**

This policy was agreed by the Leadership and will be reviewed annually:

Signed by:

Position:

Signed by:

Position

Signed by:

Position

Signed by:

Position

Date:

## **Appendices**

### **Safeguarding statement**

**(This statement is displayed in the main corridor.)**

## **PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS POLICY STATEMENT**

### **Caterham Baptist Church**

The following statement was agreed by the Eldership on:

- This place of worship is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults with care and support needs and ensuring their well-being.

We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent harm or Abuse to children and adults with care and support needs in all their recognised forms.

- We recognise that the personal dignity and rights of adults and children and will ensure all our policies and procedures will reflect this.
- We believe all people should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the place of worship/organisation.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with children and adults with care and support needs.
- We believe every child and adult should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that all those we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are experiencing significant harm.

### **We are committed to:**

- Following statutory denominational and specialist guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults and will ensure that as a place of worship/organisation all workers will work within the agreed procedure of our safeguarding policy.
- Implementing the requirements of all relevant legislation including, but not limited to; Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005, Equality Act 2010 and referring concerns about adults with care and support needs to the local authority under the Care Act 2014.
- Supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake this work.
- Ensuring that we are keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this place of worship.
- Supporting all in the place of worship affected by abuse.

**We recognise:**

- Children's Social Services has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about an adult with care and support needs.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

**We will review this statement and our policy annually.**

If you have any concerns for a child or adult, then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding co-ordinators for this place of worship/organisation.

Fi Jarman (Safeguarding Co-Ordinator)

Dominic Squibb (Deputy Safeguarding Co-Ordinator)

Jonathan Bailey (Deputy Safeguarding Co-Ordinator)

A copy of this place of worship's \*policy can be seen on the church website:

Signed by Eldership\*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Caterham Baptist Church (CBC) behaviour code for working with children, young people and adults at risk of harm**

### **Purpose**

This behaviour code outlines the conduct expected of all workers (staff and volunteers). The code of conduct aims to help protect adults at risk of harm, children and young people from abuse and inappropriate behaviour from those in positions of trust, and to reduce the risk of unfounded allegations of abuse being made.

### **The role of workers (staff and volunteers)**

When working with children and young people or adults at risk of harm, you are acting in a position of trust for CBC. You will be seen as a role model and must act appropriately.

### **Good practice**

- Treat everyone with dignity, respect and fairness, and have proper regard for individuals' interests, rights, safety and welfare.
- Work in a responsible, transparent and accountable way.
- Be prepared to challenge unacceptable behaviour or to be challenged.
- Listen carefully to those you are supporting.
- Avoid any behaviour that could be perceived as bullying, emotional abuse, harassment, physical abuse, spiritual abuse or sexual abuse (including inappropriate physical contact such as rough play and inappropriate language or gestures).
- Seek advice from someone with greater experience when necessary.
- Work in an open environment – avoid private or unobserved situations.
- Follow policies, procedures and guidelines and report all disclosures, concerns, allegations, and suspicions to the Safeguarding Coordinator.
- Don't make inappropriate promises particularly in relation to confidentiality.
- Do explain to the individual what you intend to do and don't delay taking action.

### **Unacceptable behaviour**

- Not reporting concerns or delaying reporting concerns.
- Taking unnecessary risks.
- Any behaviour that is or may be perceived as threatening or abusive in any way.
- Passing on your personal and/or social media contact details.
- Developing inappropriate relationships.
- Smoking and consuming alcohol or illegal substances.
- Favouritism/exclusion – all people should be equally supported and encouraged.

### **Safe Touch Guidance during children's activities:**

There are occasions when physical contact is proper and necessary for example when comforting a Distressed child or giving first aid

Hands, arms and outer shoulders are generally considered neutral areas that are suitable to offer informal emotional support.

If a Child initiates physical contact - we should offer alternatives such as sideways hugs, or high fives.

During activities personal phones are not to be used for filming or pictures without prior agreement from the parents.

### **Photography and videography Guidelines:**

We will not record or use images of children on Zoom at the 1030 am service.

Any recording or photographing of under 18's must be with the express permission of parents or responsible adults. These images will not be shown on Zoom at the 1030 am service.

After agreed use of images and photography, these images will be deleted. Parents and appropriate adults have the right to see all materials of their child and can withdraw consent at any time.

## **Breaching the Code of Conduct**

If you have behaved inappropriately you will be subject to disciplinary procedures (particularly in the case of paid staff where the line manager will consult the Safeguarding Coordinator as appropriate). Depending on the seriousness of the situation, you may be asked to leave CBC. We may also make a referral to statutory agencies such as the police and/or the local authority children's or adult's social care departments or DBS. If you become aware of a breach of this code, you should escalate your concerns to the Safeguarding Coordinator or line manager (in the case of a paid staff member).

## **Declaration**

I agree to abide by the expectations outlined in this document and confirm that I have read the relevant policies that assist my work with vulnerable groups.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

## **Statutory definitions of abuse (Children)**

**Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm.**

Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting; by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger. They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child or children. Child protection legislation throughout the UK is based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Each nation within the UK has incorporated the convention within its legislation and guidance.

### **England**

The four definitions (and a few additional categories) of abuse below operate in England based on the government guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)'.

#### **What is abuse and neglect?**

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting, by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger, for example via the Internet. They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children.

**Physical abuse** may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

**Emotional abuse** is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

**Sexual abuse** involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the Internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

**Neglect** is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, which is likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- Provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment);
- Protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger;
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

**Child sexual exploitation** is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

**Extremism** goes beyond terrorism and includes people who target the vulnerable – including the young – by seeking to sow division between communities on the basis of race, faith or denomination; justify discrimination towards women and girls; persuade others that minorities are inferior; or argue against the primacy of democracy and the rule of law in our society.



## Statutory definitions of abuse (Adults)

The following information relates to the Safeguarding of Adults as defined in the Care Act 2014, Chapter 14. Safeguarding, this replaces the previous guidelines produced in 'No Secrets' (Department of Health 2000).

The legislation is relevant across England and Wales but on occasions applies only to local authorities in England.

The Safeguarding duties apply to an adult who;

- Has need for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs);
- Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

Organisations should always promote the adult's wellbeing in their safeguarding arrangements. People have complex lives and being safe is only one of the things they want for themselves. Professionals should work with the adult to establish what being safe means to them and how that can be best achieved. Professional and other staff should not be advocating 'safety' measures that do not take account of individual well-being, as defined in Section 1 of the Care Act.

The Care Act 2014: [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted)

Care and Support Statutory Guidance under the Care Act 2014: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-statutory-guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance>

This section considers the different types and patterns of abuse and neglect and the different circumstances in which they may take place. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list but an illustrative guide as to the sort of behaviour that could give rise to a safeguarding concern.

**Physical abuse** – including assault, hitting, slapping, pushing, misuse of medication, restraint or inappropriate physical sanctions.

**Domestic violence** – including psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional abuse; so called 'honour' based violence.

**Sexual abuse** – including rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, sexual teasing or innuendo, sexual photography, subjection to pornography or

witnessing sexual acts, indecent exposure and sexual assault, or sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting.

**Psychological abuse** – including emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, cyber bullying, isolation or unreasonable and unjustified withdrawal of services or supportive networks.

**Financial or material abuse** – including theft, fraud, Internet scamming, coercion in relation to an adult's financial affairs or arrangements, including in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.

**Modern slavery** – encompasses slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

**Discriminatory abuse** – including forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment; because of race, gender and gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion.

**Organisational abuse** – including neglect and poor care practice within an Institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, for example, or in relation to care provided in one's own home. This may range from one-off incidents to on-going ill-treatment. It can be through neglect or poor professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.

**Neglect and acts of omission** – including ignoring medical, emotional or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, care and support or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.

**Self-neglect** – this covers a wide range of behaviour neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding. Incidents of abuse may be one-off or multiple, and affect one person or more.