

Totnes Gospel Hall



15 Castle Street, ♦ Totnes, ♦ Devon. ♦ TQ9 5NU

Website: <http://www.totnesgospelhall.org.uk>

Leadership Safeguarding Statement

The Leadership of Totnes Gospel Hall recognises the importance of its ministry /work with children and young people and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

The following statement was agreed by the leadership.

This place of worship is committed to the safeguarding of children and ensuring their well-being.

Specifically:

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect of children and young people (those under 18 years of age) and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We believe every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that 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 undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of all those who will work with children.

We are committed to:

- Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children and good practice recommendations.
- Respecting the rights of children as described in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Ensuring that workers adhere to the agreed procedures of our safeguarding policy.
- Keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Supporting the safeguarding co-ordinator/s in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children.

- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this church.
- Supporting parents and families
- Nurturing, protecting and safeguarding of children and young people
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring and providing supervision to all those who undertake this work.
- Supporting all in the place of worship/organisation affected by abuse.

We recognise:

- Children’s Social Services (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child.
- 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 and procedures annually.

If you have any concerns for a child then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding co-ordinators for this church

Dave or Iris Santer Child Safeguarding Coordinator
John Legge Deputy Child Safeguarding Coordinator

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from the church secretary.

Signed by the leadership.

Signed _____

Date _____