

Grace Community Church takes Safeguarding seriously and we work with local and national organisations to help us keep everyone safe. We will fulfil all our legal duties to protect both Children and Adults at Risk of Abuse and to discharge our safeguarding duties in a way that is biblically faithful. Our God calls us to do justice, love kindness and to walk humbly before him.

This Safeguarding Policy covers all the church's activities. All Staff and volunteers will be expected to carry out their duties in compliance with this policy.

Our primary Safety guarding objective is to protect from harm, harassment, abuse and exploitation our staff, volunteers and all those who attend the church's activities. To achieve this objective Grace Community Church will seek to:

- Ensure that we provide a healthy and spiritually nurturing, environment for everyone who engages with our church community.
- Ensure that that any harm that is identified, regardless of where it occurred is handled effectively, promptly, and proportionately.
- Ensure that where concerns that fall below the threshold for reporting to statutory services are identified the responses are appropriate and consent-based.
- Ensure that people who have experienced harm will be treated with dignity, respect, compassion, that their wishes are given full consideration and that they are appropriately involved in and informed of decisions that affect them.
- Ensure that we act in the best interests of people who have experienced harm.
- Promote a culture of continuous improvement by encouraging individuals to participate in the implementation and development of the Safeguarding practices.
- Ensuring that the Safeguarding policies, procedures, and guides are communicated and understood by all concerned persons and are made available on request.

Staff and volunteers will be provided with Safeguarding training to ensure that they are competent in their role to identify abusive behaviour and to mitigate Safeguarding risks. The Church Safeguarding poster contains contact details of our Safeguarding Leads.

The church leadership will conduct annual reviews of the Safeguarding policy and practices to assess effectiveness and to identify and implement improvements.

*C. Atkinson*

Chris Atkinson  
Operations Director -Grace Community Church