

## SAFEGUARDING POLICY 2018

The trustees of HEBA care about the safeguarding of everyone who comes into contact with churches in membership with the Association, particularly children, young people and adults at risk.

The trustees recognise that they have no power to enforce good practice in safeguarding upon member churches and nor can they accept any responsibility for safeguarding in churches as this is the responsibility of the leaders of each local church.

Leaders in local churches are responsible for

- putting safeguarding policies in place and ensuring that they are disseminated appropriately and adhered to in all aspects;
- the activities undertaken by the church on its own premises and elsewhere;
- ensuring that outside groups using their premises have appropriate policies to which they adhere **and for**
- reporting incidents to the Regional Ministry Team as appropriate and required; see [here](#).

However, the trustees of HEBA actively encourage each Baptist church in membership to take safeguarding seriously, ensuring that the children, young people and adults at risk that it is in contact with are kept safe from harm.

The trustees expect each church to have robust safeguarding policies in place and to act in line with those policies. To this end, the trustees signpost on their website [resources](#) available to churches on the *Baptists Together* website and to help make training available to all church members and church leaders in HEBA churches at reasonable cost. The delivery of [safeguarding training](#) at appropriate levels around the Association is overseen by the Trustee for Safeguarding Circle reporting directly to the trustees through the Trustee for Safeguarding working with a small group of staff and volunteers.

The trustees themselves have a Service Agreement with CCPAS in order to ensure that their safeguarding policies and practice are fully up-to-date and operating as effectively as possible through members of staff who attend the BUGB National Safeguarding Network.

HEBA Trustees and staff are subject to the DBS checks appropriate for their role and are expected to undertake safeguarding training to at least Level 2. The trustees undertake to exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of any paid or volunteer staff working with children, young people or adults at risk, for example at Association events. This includes ensuring that DBS checks are undertaken at an appropriate level.

The Association Administrator has established a procedure for ensuring that appropriate records are kept of safeguarding incidents reported to HEBA. The retention of these reports is covered by the trustees' Data Protection Policy, available [here](#)\*.

HEBA's designated trustee for Safeguarding is **Revd Duncan MacLean**, who is a member of the Safeguarding Circle.

Adopted by the Trustees 6 November 2014.

Updated August 2015 – new designated trustee

Updated August 2017 – updated vocabulary

Updated July 2018 – General update in view of GDPR.

\* Policy to be hyperlinked.