



141 Springhead Parkway, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 8AD

Safeguarding Statement

The Directors and Trustees of Eastgate (hereafter referred to as 'the organisation') recognises the importance of its ministry work with children and young people and adults in need of protection, and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to their care.

The following statement was agreed by the organisation at a Trustees Meeting held on 6th October 2015.

This organisation is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults 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 recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of vulnerable adults and will ensure all our policies and procedures reflect this.

- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the place of worship/organisation unless they pose a risk to the safety of those we serve.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of all those who will work with children and vulnerable adults.

We are committed to:

- Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and good practice recommendations.
- Respecting the rights of children as described in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Implementing the requirements of legislation in regard to people with disabilities.
- Ensuring that workers, employed or voluntary, adhere to the agreed procedures of our safeguarding policy.
- Keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Following any denominational or organisational guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults in need of protection.
- Supporting the safeguarding co-ordinator/s in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children/vulnerable adults.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this place of worship/organisation.
- 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.
- Adopting and following the 'Safe and Secure' safeguarding standards developed by Thirtyone:eight (formerly know as the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service).

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. Adult Social Care (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a vulnerable adult.

- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Where working outside of the UK, concerns will be reported to the appropriate agencies in the country in which we operate, and their procedures followed, and in addition we will report concerns to our agency’s headquarters.
- Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

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

If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult then speak in the first instance to the designated Safeguarding Officer, or in her absence one of her deputies. The designated Safeguarding Officer for Eastgate is Helen Matthews. Deputy Safeguarding Officers are Vicky Schulz, David Stevens, Donna King, Patrick Nyamangunda and Liz Smallwood. If you wish to contact a member of the Safeguarding Team please do so via email safeguarding@eastgate.org.uk

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from Eastgate’s administration office.

A copy of our safeguarding policy has been lodged with Thirtyone:eight.

Signed by David Stevens on behalf of the Directors and Trustees of Eastgate on 26th October 2018

Version	Date	Reason for Change
Version 1	6 th October 2015	Initial version
Version 2	11 th December 2015	Clarification of Safeguarding Officers
Version 3	26 th October 2018	Clarification of Safeguarding Officers and change of name for advisory service