

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

It is a legal requirement that charities have and must adhere to a safeguarding policy suitable for meeting their aims and objectives.

Kingdom Keys (KK) takes the safeguarding of children and adults very seriously and understands that safeguarding should be a priority for all organisations.

We believe we have a duty to recognise and be well informed on issues regarding safeguarding, reporting of abuse, recognising its signs and knowing how to appropriately handle them.

We will ensure that at all times we have an appointed person, who has undergone training to Level 3 (Foundation Level) Safeguarding Children and Adults. This person is responsible for dealing with any issues that arise

ABOUT KK

KK carries out teaching and training to adults within the UK and beyond, including in churches, communities and prisons. Currently this work is undertaken by a regular group of volunteers.

In this policy we set out how we will implement the Safeguarding Policy within our organisation, to churches, the community and prisons in the UK.

TRUSTEES AND TEAM MEMBERS

KK's Board of Trustees will have overall responsibility for ensuring effective safeguarding throughout the organisation. Any safeguarding concerns or incidents will be reported to the Safeguarding Lead, who will report to the Board. KK will ensure that all Trustees and Team Members have a copy of the policy. We will ensure that they all undergo training to provide an awareness of any such issue that may need reporting.

KK will ensure that each Trustee and Team Member understands that they have a duty of care to all students and the process of reporting any incidents.

Any instance of a safeguarding concern involving a KK Trustee, Team member or Student, current or past, must be reported, in the first instance to KK's Safeguarding Lead. The Safeguarding Lead will act in accordance with his/her training and involve appropriate members of the Board in carrying out suitable investigations and offering appropriate advice to that person.

In the case of a Trustee or Team Member who has been abused in any way or is at risk, we will care for them pastorally and if necessary signpost them to other suitable agencies who specialise in counselling and any other such need that they may have.

RECOGNITION OF SIGNS OF ABUSE, RISK, HARM OR VULNERABILITY

What is abuse?

The following are the main categories and standard definitions adopted by statutory bodies and safeguarding practitioners for the purpose of identifying and addressing abuse.

Abuse is any kind of selfish act of oppression and harm, exploitation and manipulation of power by those in a position of authority over an individual or group of individuals. This may be caused by those inflicting harm or those who fail to act to prevent harm. Abuse is not restricted to any socio-economic group, gender or culture. It can take a number of forms, and some common examples of abuse that employees and volunteers might encounter include:

- Sexual abuse – involves a child or young person being forced or coerced into participating in or watching sexual activity. Participation could include physical or virtual (online/electronic) participation. It is not necessary for the child or young person to be aware that the activity is sexual and the apparent consent of the child is irrelevant.
- Physical abuse – causes physical harm to a person. It may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding, drowning or suffocating. It may be done deliberately or recklessly or be the result of failure to prevent injury from occurring.
- Emotional abuse – occurs where there is persistent emotional ill treatment or rejection. It causes severe and adverse effects on a child's, young person's or adult's behaviour and emotional development, resulting in low self-worth. Some level of emotional abuse is present in all forms of abuse.
- Bullying - is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally. Bullying can take many forms (for instance, cyber-bullying via text messages, digital imagery or the internet), and is often motivated by prejudice against particular groups, for example on grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation etc.
- Neglect – neglect is the persistent or severe failure to meet a child or young person's basic physical and or psychological needs, such that it results in serious impairment of their health or development. Neglect can also involve not paying attention to a child or young person's safety.
- Financial (or material) abuse – can involve taking a material or financial item such as money from a vulnerable person without consent of the owner or their guardian.
- Parents who are themselves vulnerable adults - It is not uncommon for the parents of children who are abused or neglected to be themselves vulnerable adults. Particularly common are problems of mental ill-health, domestic abuse and substance abuse (i.e. drugs and alcohol), often in combination.

- Female genital mutilation - This is an offence and any suggestion that it is being sought or has been carried out should be referred to the local authority children's social care service or the police if reported to Prison Fellowship.
- Trafficking - is the bringing of children and adults into the country, sometimes without proper immigration arrangements, for a variety of illegal purposes which can include domestic service, illegal adoption, organ harvesting, benefit claims or prostitution.
- Sexual exploitation - Children can be exploited by being given rewards in return for sexual activities. Internet and other media technology may be used in the abuse. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common. Regardless of the challenging behaviours they may display, exploited children should be viewed as victims of child sexual abuse, not as criminals.
- Forced marriage and honour-based violence - Disclosures of actual or possible forced marriage should not be treated as a family matter or be disclosed to family members. Local authority children's social care or the police should be contacted.

RECORDING INCIDENTS AND CONCERNS

Incidents and concerns must be brought to the attention of the Safeguarding Lead as soon as possible and a written report completed, which will be brought to the Board of Trustees.

VOLUNTEERING IN UK PRISONS

KK recognises that working with prisoners comprises specific parameters and procedures in the reporting process.

As we volunteer at the invitation of the Chaplaincy, we will report an incident or any concerns to the Chaplain as a matter of urgency. We will also keep a written record.

POLICY REVIEW

KK will review this policy annually and make any necessary revisions and record them.

This Safeguarding Policy was last updated on 12 February 2020