

Gilgal Baptist Church Porthcawl
Policy Statement on the Protection of Adults at Risk
March 2018

The vision statement of the church is “To Know Jesus Better and to Make Him Better Known”, to encourage people to become more Christ-like through discipleship and we are committed to meeting the needs of those inside and outside our walls through ministry. We value fellowship and will come before the Lord in obedience to worship Him.

In the following document all pages referred to occur in the Document *Safe to Belong 2015*, which lays out the Baptist Union of Great Britain Guidelines for the protection of Adults at Risk.

This statement was first adopted at a church meeting held in March 2017. It will be reviewed each year and presented at the Church Annual General Meeting.

1. As members of this church we commit ourselves to the safeguarding of adults at risk and ensuring their well-being in the life of this church. (See Page 7)
2. It is the responsibility of each of us to prevent the physical, emotional, sexual, financial, spiritual abuse and bullying of adults at risk and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
3. We are dedicated in the pastoral care and support of those who have experienced abuse. The Church will ensure that in cases where abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected, appropriate pastoral care is provided (either from within the Church or externally) for both alleged victim(s) and/or alleged abuser(s).
4. We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with adults at risk. (See pages 26 - 29)
5. The church is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake this work. (See page 28)
6. The church adopts the guidelines of the Baptist Union of Great Britain published in *Safe To Belong 2015*. Copies will be made available in the Vestibule
7. Each person who works with adults at risk will agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines as seen in *Safe to Belong 2015* (see page 31)

Responsible people

As part of our commitment to adults at risk, the church has appointed **Karen Challenger** to be their Advocate. The role will be regularly explained to adults at risk, and the Advocate's contact details will be publicly displayed. Karen Challenger's phone number is 07795 516369 and her email address is karenchallenger1@googlemail.com.

The church has appointed **Liz Rees** as the Safeguarding Trustee to oversee and monitor implementation of the policy on behalf of the church's charity trustees. Liz Rees' phone number is 01656 451208 and her email address is lizreesgilgal@hotmail.co.uk

The church has appointed **Linda Harber** as the Designated Person for Safeguarding to investigate on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and young people and to take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected. Linda Harber's phone number is 01656 786298 and her email address is lharber94@gmail.com.

Availability of policy and procedures

The Gilgal Policy Statement on Protection of Adults at Risk – March 2018 will be made available to Church members prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Church. A copy of the Protection of Adults at Risk policy will be displayed permanently in the Church, church vestry and at Gilgal Woodland Avenue and will be made available on request to any member of, or other person associated with, the church, their parent or their carer.

Signed: Martin Gillard (Church Minister) Date 20 March 2018

Next review date will be at the Church Annual General Meeting 2019

Registered Charity No: 1134864