ALTRINCHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH Safeguarding Good Practice

Statement of Policy for safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults at Risk

The Elders' Meeting on behalf of Altrincham United Reformed Church (hereinafter referred to as 'the Church') has overall responsibility for policies and procedures relating to safeguarding *children, young people and adults at risk*.

- SAFEGUARDING GOOD PRACTICE is a statement referring to work generally carried out with children and young people under the age of 18 years of age, however it also applies to work with *adults at risk (e.g. elderly people or those with physical or mental difficulty/disability)*.
- A system for reporting and dealing with any alleged or suspected cases of abuse is in place and understood by all Leaders.
- The Church takes seriously the welfare of all persons who come onto its premises or who are involved in its activities and aims to ensure that each person is welcomed into a safe, caring, Christian environment with a happy and friendly atmosphere.
- Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone at Altrincham United Reformed Church. The Church recognises that it is the responsibility of each person to whom care has been entrusted to prevent the neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse of those who could be at risk and to report any abuse discovered or suspected.
- The Church recognises its responsibility to implement, maintain and regularly review procedures which are designed to prevent abuse of any kind and deal appropriately with any situations that may arise.
- The Church is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who work with children, young people and adults at risk. Regular Leaders and Volunteers are vetted in accordance with the Church's requirements.
- All cases of concern should be reported immediately to the Church Secretary
- The Church is committed to maintaining good links with relevant statutory organisations
- The Church's Good Practice Policy and Procedures is on display. It is reviewed and updated annually and can be requested from the Church Office or Church Secretary at any time.

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