



Safeguarding Policy

Cambourne Church is committed to safeguarding all those who attend the worship and other activities that we offer. We follow the House of Bishops' Policy, 'Protecting All God's Children' (2010), and the Diocese of Ely Policy and Procedures (2016). We seek to create a culture where everyone is included, respected, listened to, and taken seriously. We accept the prime duty of care for children and adults at risk of harm, and have appointed a safeguarding co-ordinator to ensure that what we do is informed by up-to-date policies and procedures from local and national authorities.

Our safeguarding co-ordinator is: **Alison Butler** and she can be contacted on alison.butler@cambournechurch.org.uk 01954 717808 or 07871096265

The Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser is: **Rebecca Boswell** and she can be contacted on rebecca.boswell@elydiocese.org 01353 652731

We follow recommended safeguarding practice in recruiting, training and supporting our ordained and lay ministers, our employees and our volunteers. Recruitment includes Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) criminal record checks for those working regularly or substantially with children and/or adults who may be at risk of harm. Health and safety policies are in place and we have provided adequate insurance cover for all activities undertaken in the name of Cambourne Church. All those working on behalf of Cambourne Church have agreed to comply with the safeguarding policy and with the good practice guidelines for their work.

We respond and record without delay to any complaint that a child or adult at risk in our care may have been harmed by the behaviour of an employee or volunteer working on behalf of the church. We always seek advice on such matters from outside this church, and we will co-operate with statutory agencies during any enquiries they need to make into allegations against a member of the church community. During those enquiries we will do our best to ensure that those making an allegation, and those against whom an allegation is made, are supported appropriately.

We seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to any child or adult whose life has been affected by abuse, whether the abuse was recent or long ago. Where there is a current risk to vulnerable people that has not yet been brought to light, we support the person who has suffered harm in taking information to the appropriate agencies.

This church wishes to welcome and support all members of its community. Those who have a history of offences against children or adults at risk, and/or who may pose a risk to them are offered a supportive agreement to help them take part in church life; they are supported pastorally, and boundaries are set to protect those who might be at risk of harm within the church. Confidential safeguarding agreements are the responsibility of the Diocese of Ely Safeguarding Adviser, the safeguarding co-ordinator and the minister, who work together.

We review and update our safeguarding policy every two years, and we welcome comments from those using our services on how we could improve our awareness and safeguarding practices.

This Policy was adopted by the Church Council in June 2021. Next review due in May 2023.