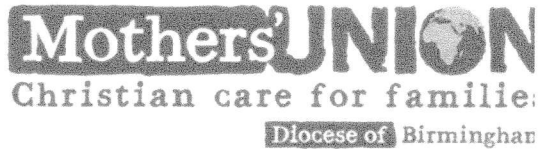


**MOTHERS' UNION
BIRMINGHAM DIOCESE**

1 Colmore Row
Birmingham B3 2BJ
Registered Charity Number: 1065815



SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

This policy statement on safeguarding children and adults in Birmingham Mothers' Union was adopted by Birmingham Mothers' Union at a Trustee Board meeting held on 7th March 2020.

Birmingham Mothers' Union recognises the need to safeguard the children, young people and adults in our care and guard against the possibility of any form of abuse of children, young people and adults by persons who may be acting in the name of Mothers' Union. We aim to create a safe environment for the nurture and development of children, young people and adults, in order for them to feel valued and confident to ask for support and help. We will create policies and procedures that uphold the importance of our responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children, young people and adults entrusted to our care. A Safeguarding Co-ordinator will be appointed to ensure the implementation of this policy.

- We commit to providing a safe physical environment for work with children, young people and adults
- We recognise that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that each of us may be regarded as vulnerable at some time in our lives
- As members of Mothers' Union we commit ourselves to respectful pastoral care for all adults to whom we minister
- We commit ourselves to the safeguarding of people who may be vulnerable and ensuring their well-being
- We commit ourselves to promoting safe practice by those in positions of trust
- Mothers' Union commits itself to promoting the inclusion and empowerment of people who may be vulnerable
- We commit to informing all members about our safeguarding policy and procedures and recognise that it is the responsibility of each of us to prevent and report abuse that we discover or suspect
- We will ensure the children, young people and adults in our care know who they can talk to if they have any concerns
- We recognise our responsibility to always respond to and report abuse in whatever context, inside or outside the Mothers' Union environment, and will always listen to and take seriously any child, young person or adult who reports that they have been abused
- We will always report allegations of abuse and concerns about a child, young person or an adult who is experiencing or at risk of abuse due to their illness or disability in accordance with our procedures
- We will always report all allegations of abuse against Mothers' Union Officers* to the appropriate statutory agency and to the central Mothers' Union and co-operate with any investigation
- We will keep all records in relation to safeguarding concerns, allegations and the recruitment of volunteers and paid workers securely

- We commit to the safe recruitment of all new and current Mothers' Union Officers* who have contact with children, young people and adults experiencing or at risk of abuse due to their, illness or disability
- We will assess all new and current Mothers' Union Officer* roles and, in every case where the role is deemed to be eligible, apply for an appropriate level criminal record check every five years
- We commit to providing every Mothers' Union Officer* with clear instructions and information in respect of their role, adequate resources and support and regular opportunities for review
- We will ensure that all Mothers' Union Officers* working with children, young people and adults experiencing or at risk of abuse due to their age, illness or disability or are in a trusted role attend safeguarding training every three years
- We will inform the central Mothers' Union, and ensure appropriate supervision, of anyone who is known to have offended against a child, young person or an adult at risk of abuse due to their age, illness or disability who attends activities organised by the Birmingham Mothers' Union and will follow all recommendations of the central Mothers' Union in this regard
- The Birmingham Mothers' Union adopts the Promoting a Safer Church (2017) policy commitments and all safeguarding practice guidance of The Church of England and procedures in place in The Church of England – Birmingham for their implementation
- The policy will be reviewed each year to monitor the progress which has been achieved
- We will review our safeguarding policy annually to ensure that it meets all current legislation, House of Bishops and The Church of England – Birmingham policies and practice guidance
- Each person who works with vulnerable people will agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by the Mothers' Union.

This Mothers' Union appoints Rowena Nicholls to represent the concerns and views of vulnerable people at our meetings and to outside bodies **as the safeguarding co-ordinator**.

This church appoints Rowena Nicholls as a **lead identity verifier** to process online Disclosure and Barring Service applications

Diocesan President : *Deirdre Ru Moh*

Date: *12 March 2020*

** A 'Mothers' Union Officer' is anyone appointed by or on behalf of the Birmingham Mothers' Union to a post or role, whether they are ordained or lay, paid or unpaid.*

Birmingham Mothers' Union will work closely with the Diocese of Birmingham Bishop's Safeguarding Adviser and the Safeguarding Team as it works within the Diocese and it's parishes.