

## **The Lord Wharton's Charity Trust's Commitment to Safeguarding**

The Trust exists to distribute Bibles to young people who might not otherwise be able to obtain one & works through both Churches & Schools.

It is committed to safeguarding those with whom it comes into contact & those who seek the help of the Trust on behalf of young people.

The trustees and clerk will act together in a coordinated and supportive manner, being alert to and making timely responses to any concerns. The Clerk and designated Trustee will ensure the operational implementation of the Trust's safeguarding policies, drawing in specialist support or advice as needed

### **Policy Statement**

The Trust believes that abuse and mistreatment in any form, **including bullying**, is entirely contrary to Scripture and the Church's teaching & wants to ensure the safeguarding and protection of all children & young people and maintain a culture of 'informed vigilance' and actions towards safeguarding everyone.

### **Guiding Principles**

The principles below will guide all elements of safeguarding activity in the life of the Trust:

- timely safeguarding action
- involvement of others on a need to know basis only
- prevention and the early identification and management of actual or potential risks
  - being aware that it is better to take action before harm occurs
- discharging duties to the highest level of Christian behaviour.

### **Safeguarding Procedures**

Concerns about children & young people will be diligently and promptly responded to. Where there is a concern, this should be reported to the appropriate person (the Clerk &/or Trust Safeguarding Lead) or advice sought (from the thirtyoneeight.org helpline) immediately where possible, but at least within 24 hours.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

Trustees

The Trustees hold ultimate responsibility for safeguarding policy and its implementation. It appoints a Safeguarding Lead to coordinate the operational management of all aspects of safeguarding and work, if necessary with the Statutory Agencies.

The Trust Safeguarding Lead should give a full report to all the Trustees once a year on this area.

The Trustees designates one of its members, Rev Mary Hawes (National Children & Youth Adviser, The Education Office, Church House), as the Safeguarding Lead for the Trust, to exercise general oversight of all safeguarding policy and its implementation in its behalf. She is responsible for ensuring that the Trust's safeguarding policy and procedures are up-to-date, and are being effectively implemented through the provision of specialist advice, support, training and monitoring. She is responsible for the co-ordination of any concerns about a child or young person.

**Responding to concerns or allegations** Where any person connected with the Trust becomes aware of a suspicion or concern about possible or potential abuse they should inform the Safeguarding Lead & the Clerk. Contact details are on the Charity's website – <http://www.lordwhartonbibles.org.uk>

Policy adopted January 2020 and reviewed annually