

Setting the Stage

Biblical insights to safeguarding within an inclusive community

A church's Safeguarding Policy is a document that is founded in love and care. It aims to protect all children and adults at risk from harm as well as to bring freedom and guidance to those teaching and nurturing those in their care. It is not a document that works to create or exacerbate fear but one that works to create protective boundaries for all involved.

Freedom, boundaries, care and, above all, grace are attributes of our creator. The Bible is a story of God, through clear boundaries and limitless grace, bringing freedom to his people out of his love for them.

It is grace that ensures that this document is one not created out of fear. Grace allows us to see and nurture the good in everyone. Grace pushes us to work ceaselessly towards the protection of those whom God has placed in our care. Grace is the defining element of the church and is, therefore, the defining element of all it creates and sustains.

The church has been granted the amazing privilege of working with all of God's people and we should concentrate our efforts on providing high quality, safe, grace-filled care and teaching.

This document is the starting point for this and we should feel the need and freedom to work from this to provide all we can for whole family of God.

Referenced documents

These policies and procedures came from Safe to Grow (sixth edition) and Safe to Belong (first edition), Baptist Union of Great Britain.