



# **SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT 2024**

## POLICY STATEMENT

**Rhema Christian Ministries** (hereafter 'RCM') regards the protection and safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults and good working practice as a priority. In the interests of the safety and well being of all it has developed and operates a formal safeguarding policy, which is registered with thirtyone:eight, an independent Christian safeguarding charity, of which RCM is a member.

RCM is committed to ensuring that everyone working with children or young people:

- has been safely recruited,
- is adequately trained and supervised,
- understands and follows the organisation's safeguarding policy.

The safeguarding policy may be viewed and/or a copy obtained from the office at **Rhema House, 11 Woodside Green, South Norwood, London SE25 5EY.**

The Trustees of Rhema Christian Ministries has made a commitment to children, young people and vulnerable adults in its care. In the event of any safeguarding concerns Rhema Christian Ministries will seek the advice of Thirtyone:eight and if appropriate contact the statutory authorities.

### **Rhema Christian Ministries**

- We are committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and ensuring their well-being.
- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise that the personal dignity and rights of vulnerable adults and will ensure all our policies and procedures will reflect this.
- We believe all adults should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life of the place of worship/organisation.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with children and vulnerable adults.
- We believe every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that children we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.

**We are committed to:**

- Following statutory and specialist guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults and will ensure that as an organisation all workers will work within the agreed procedure of our safeguarding policy.
- Implementing the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005 and all other relevant legislation.
- Supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake this work.
- Ensuring that we are keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by Rhema Christian Ministries.
- Supporting anyone in Rhema Christian Ministries affected by abuse.

**We recognise:**

- Children’s Social Services has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a vulnerable adult.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

**We will review this statement and our policy annually.**

If you have any concerns for a child or adult then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding coordinators for RCM:

**Marva Scott**                      Designated Lead Safeguarding Coordinator  
**Carol Mayhew**                      Designated Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator

**Signed on Behalf of the Trustees of Rhema Christian Ministries**

..... (Marva Scott - Pastor/Trustee)                      Date.....

