



FATHER'S HOUSE, SHAFTESBURY LEADERSHIP SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The Leadership of Father's House, Shaftesbury, recognises the importance of our ministry with children and adults with care and support needs, and our responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

This statement relates to all the activities undertaken by Father's House, Shaftesbury and includes those which take place at Lox Lane Christian Encounter Centre.

The following statement was agreed by the Leadership on 24th February 2020

Father's House, Shaftesbury is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults with care and support needs 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 adults at risk of harm and abuse and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of 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 Father's House, Shaftesbury.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who work with children and adults with care and support needs.
- We believe that 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 experiencing significant harm.

We are committed to;

- Following the statutory guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults
- We will ensure that all Father's House workers will work within the agreed procedure of our safeguarding policy.
- Implementing the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005, Equality Act 2010 and all other relevant legislation
- Supporting, resourcing, and training those who undertake this work.

- Ensuring 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 Father's House.
- Supporting all in Father's House affected by abuse.

We recognise:

- Children's 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 an adult with care and support needs.
- 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.

A copy of the full policy and procedures is available at **Father's House, Shaftesbury.**

We will review this statement and our policy and procedures annually. Next review – June 2024.

If you have any concerns for a child or adult then speak to one of the following who have been approved as Designated Safeguarding Leads for Father's House, Shaftesbury.

Caroline Watkins	Designated Safeguarding Lead for Father's House
Andrew Baddeley	Deputy Safeguarding Lead (Children) & E-Safety
Carolyn Powell	Deputy Safeguarding Lead (Adults)
Clare Williams	Designated Safeguarding Lead for Little Acorns Pre-school