

Safeguarding Policy

Churches Together in Keswick (CTiK) is committed to safeguarding all people who engage with our organisation and promoting their wellbeing and safety whilst preventing harm, abuse and neglect. CTiK is an umbrella organisation covering churches in Keswick and neighbourhood and arranges occasional joint events and is also a partner of the Two's Company Befriending Scheme, which has its own safeguarding arrangements in place.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, CTiK is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adult
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others

CTiK will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all
- Have a named Safeguarding Officer to work with the chair to implement policy and procedures
- Ensure safe recruitment and training
- Support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse
- On any appointment ensure the appropriate level of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are included in this process
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of CTiK
- Display on the CTiK website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, including notifying the appropriate church's Safeguarding Officer, and statutory agencies
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred
- Care for and monitor any member of the CTiK community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties
- Ensure that relevant health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually

CTiK Office Holders and CTiK activity leaders will be expected to have completed, and keep up to date, the appropriate level of safeguarding training, which will usually have been provided via their own church. Each person who participates in CTiK activities will agree to abide by this policy.

Key Contacts

CTiK Safeguarding Officer: Keith Rigg (07976 515211)

CTiK Chair: Rev Andy Murphie/Angus Whiteman

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: Joanna van Lachterop, (07458 016884) or email safeguarding.adviser@carlisediocese.org.uk

If you believe a child to be at immediate risk you must contact Cumbria Children's Services 0333 240 1727 or the Police.

Urgent concerns about vulnerable adults should be referred to your local District Adult Social Care office 0300 303 2704 or, out of normal office hours, the Emergency Duty Team 01228 526690, or the Police.