

KEEPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY SAFE (Procedures – Wales)

FOREWORD

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Wales is part of the British Union Conference (BUC) of churches and has adopted the Keeping Our Church Family Safe (KCFs) policy. These procedures reflect how the Church in Wales will act to safeguard its children and adults at risk.

They fully accord with the law and guidance relating to the protection of children and adults within Wales, in particular, the Wales procedures for Adult Protection and the All Wales Child Protection Procedures. These documents provide a single set of procedures for the whole country. The well-being of children and young people is at the heart of the Welsh Assembly Government's policy for children and their families¹.

The Keeping Our Church Family Safe procedures set out the church's guidelines relating to safeguarding our church family and the procedures to be followed in order to reduce, to the minimum, the risk of abuse to the children and adults we have contact with through all our church activities.

Emmanuel Bran
Mission President

Ian Sweeney
BUC President

[Electronic signatures to be inserted]

Protecting Children and Adults in Wales

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Wales is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk. National guidance in the All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2008² states that the fundamental principle in the protection of children from harm is the responsibility of all individuals and agencies working with children and families, and with adults who may pose a risk to children. Our work with adults is based on the central principle that 'Everyone has the right to live their lives free from coercion, intimidation, oppression and physical, sexual, emotional or mental harm'.³ The Church is guided by the country's law and guidance in its commitment to safeguarding children and adults at risk. See Appendix 14 for full details.

Protecting children means recognising when to be concerned about their safety and understanding when and how to share these concerns, how to assess such concerns and, fundamentally, what steps are required to ensure an individual's safety and well-being.

¹<http://gov.wales/pubs/circulars/2007/nafwc1207en.pdf?lang=en> p10

²<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/All-Wales-Child-Protection-Procedures-2008.pdf>

³The Wales Interim Policy and Procedures for the Protection of Vulnerable Adults from Abuse (January 2013) p13