**SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT**

Name of Place of worship: **Cornerstone Evangelical Church**

* We, the Trustees and Safeguarding team at Cornerstone Evangelical Church, are committed to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk of abuse and/or neglect;
* We recognise that ‘Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility’, helping to prevent harm or abuse to children and adults;
* We will ensure that all of our practices are child/person-centred in approach to promote the well-being of those involved;
* We recognise that personal dignity and the Rights of children and adults underpin our approach and we will ensure all our policy and procedures will reflect this;
* We believe all people should enjoy and have access to every aspect of the life and ministry of Cornerstone;
* We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with all children and adults at risk of abuse and neglect;
* We believe every child and adult should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that all those we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are experiencing harm.

**We are committed to:**

* Following and implementing the requirements of all statutory and specialist guidelines as laid out in Wales Safeguarding Procedures 2023 in relation to Safeguarding children and adults;

* Ensuring that all workers within Cornerstone will work within the agreed procedures of our safeguarding policy;
* Supporting, resourcing and training those who undertake ministries with children and adults;
* Ensuring that we are keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding;
* Ensuring that everyone agrees to work within these recommendations and the guidelines established by Cornerstone;
* Supporting all within Cornerstone who have been affected by abuse, neglect or harm.

**We recognise:**

* The Regional Safeguarding Board has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse or harm where there are concerns about a child or an adult at risk.
* Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.

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

We also commit to the inclusion of this Policy statement at Cornerstone Church’s Annual General Meeting (AGM), together with a report on the outcome of the annual Safeguarding review.

If anyone has any concerns for a child or adult, they should contact one of the following who have been appointed as the designated safeguarding leaders for Cornerstone Evangelical Church.

Designated Safeguarding Lead: **Janice Llewellyn**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:  **David Johns**

Designated Safeguarding Trustee : **Martin Brown**

A copy of Cornerstone Evangelical Church’s policy can be seen on the website

[www.abercec.org](http://www.abercec.org)