

Ombersley Road safeguarding statement

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of human beings in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

At ORMC we want everyone to be safe, to thrive, have fun, to grow and be supported in their life's journey. We believe that Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility. We have a Church Safeguarding Policy (see Statement below) which follows legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

Safeguarding policy

ORMC is committed to the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults and affirms that the needs of children or of people when they are vulnerable and at risk are paramount.

ORMC recognises that it has a particular care for all who are vulnerable whether by disabilities or by reduction in capacities or by their situation. It is recognised that this increased vulnerability may be temporary or permanent and may be visible or invisible, but that it does not diminish our humanity and seeks to affirm the gifts and graces of all God's people.

The policy addresses the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults. It is intended to be a dynamic policy. It is intended to support the Church in being a safe supportive and caring community for children, young people, vulnerable adults, for survivors of abuse, for communities and for those affected by abuse.

If you have a concern, please contact:

Minister- Revd. Katherine Pickering Tel 01905-429657

Safeguarding officer- Mr Heath Watton heathwatton@gmail.com

Ombersley Road Methodist Church commits itself to:

- **RESPOND** without delay to any allegation or cause for concern that a child or vulnerable adult may have been harmed, whether in the church or in another context. It commits itself to challenge the abuse of power of anyone in a position of trust.
- Ensure the **IMPLEMENTATION** of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation and guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.
- The **PROVISION** of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.
- **AFFIRM** and give thanks for those who work with children and vulnerable adults and also acknowledge the shared responsibility of all of us for safeguarding vulnerable adults who are on our premises.

Copies of the full policy are available upon request from Mr Heath Watton, heathwatton@gmail.com