**Safeguarding Contract SGC/3**

**Between \*\*\*\* Church/Circuit and \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

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| **Subject Name & Address:** | **Contact details (email & telephone):** |
| **Church:** | **Minister in Pastoral Charge:** |
| **Circuit Superintendent:**  **District Chair:** | **Safeguarding Officer(s):** |
| **Members of the Monitoring and Support Group :** | **Other relevant contacts:**  **(police, probation services, nominated supporters)** |

**Background**

The Methodist Church welcomes all those who wish to join in worship and engage in the life of the Church. The Church should always be a place of safety for everyone. This includes those who are vulnerable or who have suffered abuse, as well as the broader church community. As part of the Church’s commitment to safeguarding, a contract is put in place to facilitate the engagement of those who may present a risk to others. It also allows ***(add name)*** to minimize the likelihood of future allegations by complying with the boundaries that are agreed. A Monitoring and Support Group (MSG) will be set up to work with ***(add name)*** to oversee the implementation of the Safeguarding Contract.

This agreement sets down the conditions required for ***(add name)*** to engage with the Church. This will include permitted activities, restrictions in relation to usage of church buildings and interaction with other members of the community.

The Church seeks not only to protect but also to encourage and support those who wish to grow in faith and initiate positive change in their lives. To this end, safeguarding contracts include goals, which will lead to positive future outcomes with the support of the MSG and the commitment of ***(add name)*** of the contract.

**Confidentiality**

All members of the MSG will have signed a confidentiality agreement prior to the group being set up. This agreement ensures that they are aware of both the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy, Procedures & Guidance and relevant legislation in relation to the management of personal and criminal data including the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR.

**Commitments**

**As members of the MSG, we commit to:**

* Hold youin prayer and seek to provide youwith appropriate pastoral support
* engage actively in the group by providing support and oversight of your involvement with the Church
* Work effectively in partnership with statutory agencies (where applicable) and safeguarding officers in the Church to manage safeguarding risks
* Comply with the provisions of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church and the current Methodist Church Safeguarding and Risk Assessment Policy, Procedures and Guidance documents relating to the safeguarding contract process and data protection.
* Review this agreement on an annual basis and at least every 3 years, the Chair of the Monitoring and Support will conduct a review to determine whether consideration should be given to making changes or removing the Safeguarding Contract.

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| **Name of MSG Chair:**  **Date:** | **Signed:** |

I ***(add name)*** agree to:

***(add relevant conditions)***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Signed** | **Date** |
| **Subject of the Contract** |  |  |
| **District Safeguarding Officer** |  |  |

**Example Conditions**

Conditions should only be considered after completion of **SGC/1 Collation of Relevant Information** and **Summary of Known Risks SGC/2 or a full review of any Connexional Risk or District Risk Assessment and outcome letters if the case has gone to a Safeguarding Panel**. Any conditions should address known risks identified in SGC/2 or the risk assessment. This list includes examples, which may be used and amended to fit local circumstances. The provision of these examples should not prevent creative, local solutions being included to address specific risks.

**Contact with Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

\*I will never allow myself to be in a situation where I am alone with children/young people/vulnerable adults.

\*I will sit in *(add specific location*) in the church and will not place myself in the vicinity of children and young people. If necessary, I will change location to ensure that I am not seated near children and young people.

\*I agree to sit with *(add names*) when attending services/group events.

\*I will not enter *(name specified area)* of the building *(provide details of location)* designated by the Monitoring and Support Group, nor any area where *children’s/vulnerable adults’* activities are in progress.

\*I will decline invitations of hospitality where there are *children/vulnerable adults* (delete as appropriate) in the home.

\*I will not attend any church activities/events where *children, young people/vulnerable adults* are in attendance, without prior permission of my Monitoring and Support Group.

**Involvement in Activities**

**\*** Iwill inform *(add names/roles of nominated people)* when I arrive on the church premises. I will not arrive at *(name of location)* earlier *than (add number of minutes)* before the *service/activity*.

\*I will attend *meetings/house groups (add specific details)* as directed by the Monitoring and Support Group

\*I accept *that (name of nominated individual(s))* will sit with me during church activities.

\* I accept that in order to participate in church activities*, (name of nominated individual(s))* will need to be informed of the nature of the safeguarding concern relating to me. They will be provided with sufficient information to appreciate the need for oversight of me during *(specify activities).*

\*I will not visit any vulnerable adult on behalf of the church whether at home or in hospital, care home or similar establishment, unless accompanied by another member of the Methodist Church who is not a close relative of mine or the person being visited.

**Financial Activities**

\*I will not offer any financial advice to anyone within the church nor offer to assist with their financial affairs in any way.

\*I shall not undertake any activity on the Church premises which is related to the handling of or distribution of money.

**Photography and Social Media**

\*I will not take photographs or video, or record church activities using any device or system.

\*I will not use a mobile phone with internet capability while on church premises.

**Roles within the Church**

\*I understand that I cannot take on any role that would give me a place on the Church Council

\*I must not undertake any \*\* activity (name specific type of activity e.g. financial or pastoral work) within or on behalf of the Methodist Church

\*I accept that I am unable to hold any office, role or responsibility in the church including (add specific activities).

\*I understand that I may not be a key holder nor borrow keys for access to the church (name or relevant buildings.

\*If asked to take up a role, office or responsibility in church, I will only accept subject to the agreement of the Monitoring and Support Group.

**Change of Circumstances**

\* I understand that if I move from (add name of church) to worship in another church, this contract will be passed on to the minister of the new church

\*I agree that I will inform (named party) in advance if I intend to transfer to another church or attend worship or other activities in another location.

**Information Sharing and Contact with Statutory Agencies**

\*I understand that if I wish to engage with the Methodist Church and I am under the supervision of the police or probation services in relation to criminal offences, contact will be made with those officers as and when necessary.

**Provision of Support**

\*I accept that (named individual) will provide me with pastoral care.

\*I agree to meet with the Monitoring and Support Group on a (name time period) basis and to engage positively and honestly with the members of the group. I will ensure that if I am not able to attend, I inform (named person) in advance and confirm the reason for my non-attendance.

\*I will advise the Monitoring and Support Group of any significant changes in my personal circumstances so that additional support may be provided.

**Compliance**

\*I agree to comply with the conditions stated in this document and with the directions provided by the Monitoring and Support Group in their own right or on behalf of a Safeguarding Panel or District Safeguarding Officer.

\* I agree to inform the Monitoring and Support Group of any significant change of circumstances relating to safeguarding including arrest, police investigation, voluntary interview, conviction, caution.

\*I understand that if I do not keep to these conditions, then I may be refused access to church activities and statutory agencies, other relevant organisations and the church congregation may need to be informed.

\*I accept that any concerns will be shared with the Monitoring and Support Group.

\*I agree to attend meetings with the Monitoring and Support Group on a ***(add frequency)*** basisand to provide advance notice if I am unable to attend, other than in an unavoidable emergency.