



Stockwood Free Church (Baptist)

Policy Statement on Children, Young People and the Church

We acknowledge that children and young people are part of our church today. They have much to give as well as to receive. We will listen to them. As we nurture them in worship, learning and in community life, we will respect their wishes and feelings.

- As members of this church, we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all, especially children and young people.
- It is the responsibility of each one of us to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children and young people and to report any abuse discovered or suspected.
- We recognise that our work with children and young people is the responsibility of the whole church.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children and young people, whether paid or volunteer.
- The church is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who work with children and young people and to providing supervision.
- The church is committed to following the Home Office Code of Practice *Safe from Harm* and adopts the guidelines and procedures published by the Baptist Union of Great Britain in its booklet *Safe to Grow*.
- Each worker with children and young people must know the recommendations and undertake to observe them. Each shall be given a copy of the church's agreed procedures and *Good Practice* guidelines.
- As part of our commitment to children and young people, the church has appointed:



Yvonne Nichols
07549-452443
Child Protection Officer



Roz Wakefield
07929-617358
Children's Advocate



Pauline Kelly
01179-665443
Independent Advocate

*This statement was revised at the Church Meeting held on 20th September 2007.
It will be re-affirmed annually at Church's Annual General Meeting*