



Peterhead Baptist Church

Children and Young Persons Safeguarding Policy

Version/Author	Reviewer	Approval Date	Approved
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Peterhead Baptist Church

Child and Young Persons Protection Policy

1. Introduction

Church Details

Peterhead Baptist Church

49 King Street

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AB42 1TB

SCIO Number – SC053707

Pastor

David McCaig

Safeguarding Lead Officer

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“Ensuring a safe church for all”

Peterhead Baptist Church Public Safeguarding Statement 2026

“Peterhead Baptist Church acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of vulnerable people, be they children or adults, who access its facilities or participate in the outreach ministries operated by the church.

The church is committed to ensuring that it’s safeguarding practice and policy reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance, and complies with applicable regulatory requirements.

Peterhead Baptist Church has a deep concern for the wellbeing and safety of everyone.

The church’s commitment to safeguarding reminds us that God cares passionately about the wellbeing and welfare of all His people.”

Peterhead Baptist Church is committed to expressing God's love to all people, in all age groups. This document outlines the commitment and approach of Peterhead Baptist Church towards working with children and young people, whom we greatly value, and wish to encourage their growth towards mature living, to genuine fellowship, and meaningful service.

We long that each child and young person might come to faith in Christ and aim to offer them good models of faith and discipleship in our lives, and in the church.

On 18th August 2026, a meeting of the Pastor, Elders and Deacons (Leadership Group) of Peterhead Baptist Church reviewed this policy statement and operational guidelines on the safeguarding of children and young people, for use throughout the life and work of the church’s ministries.

Peterhead Baptist Church Leadership Group seeks to endorse this Policy Statement, and it is a requirement of all volunteers who work with children and young people to read, understand and adhere to the requirements of this policy. This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following church policies – First Aid Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Accident and Incident

Reporting Policy, Food Hygiene Policy and the General Data Protection Regulations Policy (GDPR).

Peterhead Baptist Church aims to:

- **Ensure best practice in the identification and appropriate reporting of abuse, and to;**
- **Ensure that the Church makes a timely and appropriate response when harm or abuse is witnessed, suspected, or reported.**

Implementation of the policy statement requirements and practice thereof will be monitored, progress reported, and policies reviewed annually, or more frequently, if judged appropriate. The work will be undertaken by the Peterhead Baptist Church Safeguarding Panel.

2. Policy Requirements

- The Pastor, Elders, Deacons and Trustees (Leadership Group) of Peterhead Baptist Church (herein after referred to as P.B.C.) commit to the nurturing, protection, and safekeeping of children and young people using and participating in church ministries and accessing church premises.
- References to “children” throughout this policy document will be deemed to include “young people”. *A “child” is defined as 0-15 years 364 days, and a “young person” is defined as 16 – 17 years 364 days.*
- P.B.C. acknowledges its responsibility, when children and young people are in our care, to be aware of the possibility of, and the signs of, physical or mental abuse, to take appropriate and necessary measures to investigate such abuse, and to report the circumstances thereof to the appropriate authorities (in accordance with our reporting policy).
- P.B.C. is committed to supporting, resourcing, and training those volunteers who work with children and young people as part of our ministries and related events, and to providing supervision and support relevant to levels of contact with, and responsibility for, children and young people. Update and developmental training

and support will be provided on an ongoing basis.

- All ministry volunteers are required to be familiar with and to implement the recommendations and requirements laid down in this policy statement and associated guidelines. All such leaders and volunteers will be provided with a copy of the policy statement and guidelines and will be asked to sign confirmation that they have read the documents and have no objection to the implementation of the requirements therein.
- A copy of this confirmation record will be maintained in accordance with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) principles and with specific reference to the PBC GDPR Policy and its data retention requirements.
- A copy of this policy will be made available on the church website. Any personal details will be redacted as appropriate.
- Appropriate volunteer recruitment procedures and background checks will be employed to ensure compliance with current national safeguarding legislation and associated guidance including the completion of any necessary PVG Disclosure checks.
- All ministry volunteers will be required to join the Protection of Vulnerable Groups scheme, hereafter named 'PVG Scheme', at a level appropriate to their contact and interaction with children and young people.
- If volunteers are existing members of the PVG scheme an update check will be carried out to ensure suitability for their level of contact and interaction with children and young people.
- To provide appropriate and confidential support to children and young people, the Pastor, Elders and Deacons will seek to appoint two "Children's Representatives" to be available to listen to the concerns and fears of children and young people in a safeguarding context, and to offer them appropriate support and guidance.
- Upon appointment the names and contact details of the Children's Representatives will be publicly displayed on church premises. The purpose and role of Children's Representatives will be outlined to children's and youth groups at an appropriate time in the church calendar.
- Outside parties and organisations which are not attached to Peterhead Baptist Church, but access and use the church premises, will be required to have their

own safeguarding procedures in place.

- Peterhead Baptist Church will establish a Safeguarding Panel to manage and oversee all safeguarding related matters affecting the church. The Panel will comprise of the Pastor, Safeguarding Lead Officer, Children's Representative/s, one Elder and one Deacon. Upon any appointed officer leaving the panel a replacement will be identified.
- The role of the Safeguarding Panel will be to monitor implementation of the requirements of this policy; to consider any safeguarding matters that may arise within the scope of church activities and to review this policy annually.