

Greater Evangelism World Crusade UK Mission

Greater Evangelism World Crusade UK Mission (GEWC UK Mission)

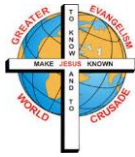
Safeguarding Policy

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1. Introduction

Greater Evangelism World Crusade UK Mission (GEWC UK Mission) is committed to creating a safe environment for everyone involved in our activities, particularly children, young people, and vulnerable adults. This Safeguarding Policy outlines our commitment to protecting these groups from harm, exploitation, and abuse. We are committed to maintaining a culture of safety, ensuring that safeguarding is embedded in all our activities, and complying with UK safeguarding legislation and best practices.

This policy applies to all staff, trustees, volunteers, beneficiaries, and any other stakeholders involved in the charity's work.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Protect children, young people, and vulnerable adults who engage with GEWC UK Mission, either as beneficiaries, staff, or volunteers.
- Ensure all staff, volunteers, and trustees are aware of their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding.
- Provide clear guidance on identifying and reporting concerns, including abuse and neglect.
- Ensure compliance with UK safeguarding laws, including the Children Act 1989, 2004, and the Care Act 2014.
- Promote a safeguarding culture where concerns are reported and managed appropriately.

3. Legal and Regulatory Framework

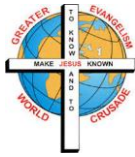
This policy is guided by the following UK legislation and statutory guidance:

- Children Act 1989 and 2004: Provides a framework for the protection of children and the promotion of their welfare.
- Care Act 2014: Establishes the legal framework for protecting adults at risk of abuse or neglect.
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018: Sets out how organisations must work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006: Provides for the vetting and barring of individuals unsuitable to work with children and vulnerable adults.
- Data Protection Act 2018 / General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): Ensures personal data, particularly that of vulnerable groups, is handled securely and appropriately.

4. Definitions

4.1 Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the process of protecting children, young people, and vulnerable adults from abuse or neglect and promoting their welfare.



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4.2 Child Protection

Child protection is a part of safeguarding and refers to activities undertaken to protect children who are suffering, or are likely to suffer, significant harm.

4.3 Vulnerable Adult

A vulnerable adult is someone aged 18 or over who, due to factors like disability, mental health issues, or age, may be unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation.

5. Types of Abuse

The following types of abuse may affect both children and vulnerable adults:

- Physical Abuse: Causing physical harm such as hitting, shaking, or other forms of violence.
- Emotional/Psychological Abuse: Causing emotional distress through threats, humiliation, or intimidation.
- Sexual Abuse: Forcing or enticing a person into sexual activities, whether or not the person consents (in the case of a child or vulnerable adult who cannot consent).
- Neglect: Failing to meet basic physical and emotional needs.
- Financial Abuse (for vulnerable adults): Exploiting a vulnerable person financially, such as theft, fraud, or misuse of resources.

6. Safeguarding Roles and Responsibilities

6.1 Trustees

The Board of Trustees holds ultimate responsibility for safeguarding within the charity. They must ensure:

- Safeguarding policies and procedures are in place and regularly reviewed.
- All staff, volunteers, and trustees are trained and understand their safeguarding responsibilities.
- Appropriate action is taken when safeguarding concerns arise.

6.2 Safeguarding Lead

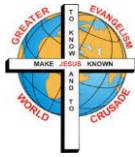
A designated Safeguarding Lead (also known as Welfare Secretary) will oversee safeguarding activities within GEWC UK Mission. Their responsibilities include:

- Acting as the first point of contact for safeguarding concerns.
- Maintaining records of safeguarding incidents and actions taken.
- Reporting incidents to the relevant authorities when necessary.
- Ensuring regular safeguarding training is provided.

6.3 Staff and Volunteers

All staff and volunteers are responsible for:

- Recognising signs of abuse or neglect.
- Reporting any safeguarding concerns immediately to the Safeguarding Lead.



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- Ensuring that their own behaviour does not put children, young people, or vulnerable adults at risk.
- Adhering to the charity's safeguarding procedures.

7. Recruitment and Training

7.1 Safer Recruitment

GEWC UK Mission is committed to safer recruitment practices to ensure that unsuitable individuals are not employed or allowed to volunteer with children or vulnerable adults. This includes:

- Carrying out Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for all relevant staff and volunteers.
- Conducting rigorous interview and reference checks.
- Ensuring that job descriptions and person specifications include responsibilities for safeguarding.

7.2 Training

All trustees, staff, and volunteers will receive safeguarding training appropriate to their role, including:

- Induction training: Ensuring that all individuals understand the charity's safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Ongoing training: Providing annual refresher training and updates on changes in legislation or safeguarding practices.

8. Reporting Procedures

8.1 Recognising Signs of Abuse

Staff and volunteers should be alert to the signs of abuse, which may include:

- Unexplained injuries or bruises.
- Sudden changes in behaviour or personality.
- Fearful or withdrawn behaviour.
- Difficulty in trusting adults or peers.

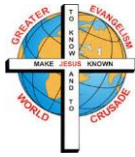
8.2 Responding to Concerns

If an individual suspects that a child, young person, or vulnerable adult is being abused or neglected, they must:

- Listen: If the individual discloses abuse, listen without interrupting or pressuring them to give more information than they are comfortable with.
- Reassure: Reassure the individual that they have done the right thing in reporting the abuse.
- Do Not Investigate: Do not attempt to investigate or confront the alleged abuser.
- Report: Report the concern to the designated Safeguarding Lead immediately.

8.3 Reporting to Authorities

The Safeguarding Lead is responsible for deciding whether to refer the concern to the relevant external authority, such as:



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- Local Authority Children's Services for concerns about children.
- Local Authority Adult Safeguarding Team for concerns about vulnerable adults.
- Police if a crime is suspected.
- In emergencies, where there is an immediate threat to the safety of a child or vulnerable adult, individuals should contact the police directly.

9. Confidentiality and Record Keeping

All safeguarding concerns and reports must be handled with the utmost confidentiality. Information will only be shared with those directly involved in handling the safeguarding issue and, where necessary, external authorities.

9.1 Record Keeping

The Safeguarding Lead will maintain secure, detailed records of:

- Any allegations of abuse.
- Actions taken in response to concerns.
- Communications with external authorities.
- Outcomes of investigations.
- All records will be stored securely and retained in line with the charity's data protection policy and GDPR.

10. Safeguarding in Charity Activities

Safeguarding should be considered in all of GEWC UK Mission's activities, including:

10.1 Events and Programs

When organising events or programs that involve children or vulnerable adults, the following measures will be taken:

- Risk Assessments: Risk assessments will be conducted to identify potential safeguarding risks.
- Supervision: Adequate supervision will be ensured by trained staff and volunteers.
- Code of Conduct: All staff and volunteers must adhere to the charity's code of conduct, which prohibits inappropriate behaviour and ensures professional boundaries are maintained.

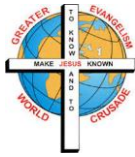
10.2 Online Activities

In any online interactions (e.g., virtual events, social media communication), the charity will ensure:

- Adequate privacy settings are used to protect participants.
- Staff and volunteers follow the charity's social media and online communication policies.
- Monitoring of interactions to ensure that no inappropriate behaviour occurs online.

11. Whistleblowing

GEWC UK Mission encourages all staff and volunteers to speak up about any concerns they have about safeguarding practices, including failures to follow this policy. Whistleblowers will be protected from victimisation or retaliation at all times.



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12. Monitoring and Review

This Safeguarding Policy will be reviewed as frequently as possible or in response to changes in legislation, guidance, or any safeguarding incidents. Regular audits will be conducted to ensure compliance with the policy and to assess the effectiveness of safeguarding practices.