

## **Causeway Coast Vineyard Safeguarding Statement**

The Leadership of Causeway Coast Vineyard recognises the importance of its ministry and work with children, young people, and adults at risk, and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

### **Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

We **commit** to the safeguarding of children, young people, and adults at risk.

We acknowledge that children, young people, and adults at risk can be victims of physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, financial, and institutional abuse, neglect, exploitation, coercion, domestic abuse, and other forms of harm.

We believe that it is always unacceptable for any child, young person, or adult at risk to experience abuse, neglect, exploitation, or harm of any kind.

We acknowledge that all children, young people, and adults at risk have the right to be treated with dignity and respect, to be listened to, to participate in decisions affecting them, and to be protected from all forms of abuse and harm.

We believe that every child, young person, and adult at risk should be valued, safe, and supported to flourish. We will seek to ensure that those we have contact with know this and are empowered to speak up if they are suffering harm or have concerns for their own safety or the safety of others.

We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the exploitation, abuse, neglect, and mistreatment of children, young people, and adults at risk, and to report any safeguarding concerns, allegations, disclosures, or suspicions that we discover or encounter.

Causeway Coast Vineyard will provide a safe, caring, welcoming, and inclusive environment for children, young people, and adults at risk.

We will achieve this by:

- following the requirements of relevant legislation, statutory guidance, and recognised good safeguarding practice;
- respecting the rights of children as described in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and promoting the rights, dignity, wellbeing, independence, and participation of adults at risk;
- valuing people, listening to them, and treating them with dignity and respect;
- implementing the requirements of legislation relating to equality, disability, and human rights;
- ensuring that all staff and volunteers understand and adhere to the procedures set out in our safeguarding policies;

- keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding;
- supporting the Designated Safeguarding Officers in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect individuals;
- ensuring that everyone involved in the life and ministry of the church agrees to abide by the safeguarding standards, recommendations, and guidelines established by our policies;
- supporting parents, carers, families, and those who care for adults at risk;
- nurturing, protecting, and safeguarding children, young people, and adults at risk;
- providing effective management, support, supervision, and safeguarding training for staff and volunteers;
- exercising proper care in the safe recruitment and selection of all staff and volunteers, ensuring that all necessary safeguarding checks are completed;
- supporting all those affected by abuse or safeguarding concerns;
- maintaining appropriate records, confidentiality, and information-sharing procedures;
- sharing concerns promptly with agencies who need to know and working in partnership with statutory agencies and other organisations to safeguard those at risk of harm.

We recognise:

- Children's Social Services has lead responsibility for investigating safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people.
- Health and Social Care Trust Adult Safeguarding Teams have lead responsibility for investigating safeguarding concerns relating to adults at risk.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed, the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), or the relevant police authority, should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Where we work outside the UK, concerns will be reported to the appropriate agencies in the country in which we operate, their procedures followed, and, where appropriate, concerns reported to the relevant organisational leadership.

We will review this statement and our safeguarding policies and procedures annually to ensure they remain effective, compliant with legislation, and reflective of current safeguarding best practice.

#### More information

Please email [safeguarding@causewaycoastvineyard.com](mailto:safeguarding@causewaycoastvineyard.com) if you would like to see a copy of our safeguarding policy.

Other useful numbers are:

Referral Gateway Team (Children & Young People)

t: 0300 1234 333 e: [SPOE.Referrals@northerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:SPOE.Referrals@northerntrust.hscni.net)

Adult Protection Safeguarding Team

t: 028 9441 3659 e: [adultsafeguarding@northerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:adultsafeguarding@northerntrust.hscni.net)

Causeway Coast Vineyard is member of thirtyone:eight. Thirtyone:eight have a 24/7 helpline for advice on safeguarding concerns (adults or children) - 0303 003 1111