



Policy Area: Safe Church		Subject: Safe Church	
Policy Number: SC001	Effective Date: April 2021	Revision: Version 1.2	

1. Rationale

Jesus' words and example provide us with a strong rationale for His church being responsible for all those in the church's care. As those charged with the leading and caring for others in ministry, 1church acknowledges the responsibility to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all under the care of 1church.

1church also operates in a country that legislates for people's safety, particularly in the area of child protection and to a lesser degree, occupational health and safety. As such 1church acknowledges that all people have a right to be emotionally and physically safe, respected, and have their views and opinions valued at all times.

2. Policy Statement

1church subscribes and adheres to the Safe Church Policy, developed and maintained by Baptist Churches Western Australia [BCWA]. The Safe Church Policy helps 1church staff, leadership and patrons to live out the biblical mandate and responsibilities under WA legislation. To reach this goal, 1church subscribes to and is in compliance with the following goals set by the Safe Church Policy. To:

- 2.1. Minimise the risk of abuse, ministry misconduct and the misuse of positional power within the church.
- 2.2. Ensure that all cases of suspected abuse and ministry misconduct are handled in a consistent, unbiased, and thorough manner.
- 2.3. Ensure that leaders and programs are safe.
- 2.4. Ensure that all people are respected and valued irrespective of their gender, age, country of origin, cultural heritage, socio-economic background or ability.

3. Code of Conduct

- 3.1 1church subscribes to the Safe Church Policies and Procedures put forward by BCWA and is bound by the rules and regulations contained in the following documentation published by BCWA:
 - 3.1.1 Safe Church Policy, August 2026
 - 3.1.2. Safe Church: An Australian Baptist Response to Persons of Concern 2025



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- 3.1. A copy of these documents will be included in the induction of all new employees and volunteers.

4. Declaration

In acknowledgement of the commitment to govern the execution of these policies and procedures the Safe Church Adoption Certificate was co-signed by the Chair of the 1church Elders Board of Governance and the 1church Director of Ministries. A copy of this signed declaration will be displayed to be noted by staff, leadership and patrons of 1church.

Document Title:	SC001: Safe Church Policy
Source Documents:	
Associated Internal Documents:	Safe Church Policies
Associated External Documents:	BCWA Safe Church Policies
Applies to:	All 1church Staff, Volunteers, Attendees
Approved by:	Hans van Asselt, Director of Ministries
Authorised Officer:	Erin Coman, Business Manager
Date of Approval:	May 2020
Assigned Review Period:	Twelve Months
Date of Next Review:	August 2027

Version Number	Version Date	Authorised Officer	Details
1.1	05/2020	Charles van Eck	Implementation
1.1	04/2021	Charles van Eck	Annual Review
1.1	05/2022	Erin Coman	Annual Review
1.1	06/2023	Erin Coman	Annual Review
1.1	08/2024	Erin Coman	Annual Review
1.2	08/2026	Erin Coman	Annual Review; Updated Documentation