

1. Overview

Tyndale Fellowship has no premises or site, and its members only gather together for annual conferences or study groups, or very occasionally for other meetings. Such gatherings hardly ever include anyone under 18. However, there may be adults at risk in attendance, and/or unusual circumstances in which a person under 18 is present, in which case this policy prevails.

Parents remain responsible for the safety and welfare of their children (below the age of 16) and young people (aged 16 or 17) at all times. Childcare arrangements are matters in which parents remain responsible for the wellbeing of their own children and young people.

2. Actions

If Tyndale Fellowship receives a safeguarding concern with regard to a child, young person or adult at risk, we will operate a no-secrets policy. The concern which is raised will be recorded, and the person raising the concern will be signposted to the police and the local authority. If a concern is raised against a staff member or committee member, the Fellowship will itself report the matter to the police and the local authority as soon as possible. The Chair of Trustees will be informed in the event of any allegation, and will be updated with any developments.

Advice will be taken from the authorities. If an allegation relates to a staff member or committee member, further professional advice may be sought from our HR and other advisors.

Where an allegation is determined to be unfounded or malicious, the Fellowship may seek advice as to appropriate next steps, and will support the person who was the subject of the allegation.

3. Confidentiality

Tyndale Fellowship will treat all such disclosures in a confidential and sensitive manner. The individual making the allegation will be reminded of the need to maintain confidentiality until a full investigation has been completed.

The identity of the individual making the allegation may be kept confidential so long as it does not hinder or frustrate any investigation. However, the investigation process may reveal the source of the information, and the individual making the disclosure is likely to be required to provide a statement as part of any legal process.

4. Pastoral Support

During a process of investigation, pastoral support will be offered to the person who has raised the concern, and also to any staff or member who has been identified as a possible cause of concern.

5. Contacts

In the event of any safeguarding concerns, contact the Chair of Trustees. If he/she is not available, contact another trustee.