

Health & Safety Policy Statement

St Paul's United Reformed Church Bracknell

Recognises and accepts its responsibilities, insofar as is reasonably practicable to provide a safe and healthy environment, ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all who use these church premises.

The church administration will take all necessary steps to meet its responsibilities by adopting the following actions:

1. Ensuring the safety and elimination of risk to health in connection with the, handling, storage and transport of articles, equipment, furnishings and toxic substances (COSHH);
2. Compliance with the safeguarding of children and adults at risk, in accordance with the URC Good Practice handbook for churches;
3. Maintaining the church premises in a condition that is safe and without risk to health and providing and maintaining means of access to and egress from it;
4. Providing and maintaining furnishings and fittings which are safe and without risk to health;
5. Conducting risk assessments on behalf of those who use the church premises, regular inspection of fire fighting equipment, illuminated fire exit notices and detection equipment in compliance with Fire Safety Order 2005.
6. The provision of information, instruction, training and supervision as is necessary to ensure the health and safety of those who use the church premises;
7. The provision and maintenance of a safe environment for church members, adherents, attendees, employee, volunteers and elders;
8. Arranging for suitable programmes of training where necessary, with all leaders, helpers, and volunteers on the effectiveness and implementation of this policy; and any necessary changes;
9. It is the duty of anyone employed by the church to take reasonable care for their own safety and that of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions. Note that the **Health and Safety Executive** regard volunteers as employees.
10. Ensuring the observance of this policy by those hiring the premises,
11. This policy will be reviewed annually and revised as necessary.

Signed

Date

Rev (d)