



Safeguarding Policy

Context

The IFCG does not have premises of its own and does not organise regular activities for children, young people or vulnerable adults. The IFCG does, however, invite the general public to participate in events 2 or 3 times a year, for example the Annual Interfaith Service and the Annual General Meeting, which are held in various places of worship in our city. These are open events and children and vulnerable adults (whose vulnerability may be temporary or permanent, visible or invisible) could be present. We also organise a monthly Interfaith Prayer Hour, and occasional one-off events, which are open to the general public. Therefore we take very seriously our responsibility to ensure that all are protected from potentially harmful situations and have a positive experience in a safe environment whilst participating in IFCG activities.

The IFCG believes that

- Children, young people and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind (physical, sexual, emotional, financial or spiritual)
- We have a responsibility to keep all people safe and to work in a way that protects them.

The IFCG recognises that some children, young people and adults from obvious religious, racial or cultural backgrounds can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare, whilst engaged in IFCG activities.

The IFCG will

- Listen to and accord dignity and respect to all participants at IFCG events, including children, young people and vulnerable adults;
- Alert all participants to our Code of Conduct (separate document) which sets out clearly the behaviours that are expected at all IFCG events;
- Ask that children and young people under the age of 18 are accompanied by a responsible adult at IFCG events;

- Remind parents/carers and volunteers at IFCG events that children, young people and vulnerable adults should not be removed from the main gathering out of sight of those taking welfare responsibility for them;
- Be meticulous in seeking permissions for any persons to be filmed or photographed whilst at IFCG events, referring to parents/carers if necessary;
- Have due regard to health and safety issues in the venues that the IFCG chooses to use;
- Take prompt action if safeguarding concerns are raised. Matters should be referred to Sheila Boyer (Secretary), Peter Wells (chair) or Kate Williamson (Executive Committee).
- They will report to the appropriate authorities and refer to the police if necessary.

Contact via secretaryifcbrighton@gmail.com

Review

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years. It was last reviewed and agreed by members of the IFCG Executive Committee on November 2022