



# SUBURBAN CHURCH

## *CHILD PROTECTION: POLICY - Final*

November, 2019

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Suburban Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, is committed to promoting and protecting the interests and safety of children. We have zero tolerance for child abuse.
- 1.2. Everyone at Suburban Church is responsible for the care and protection of children and reporting information about child abuse.

### 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is:

- 2.1. To facilitate the prevention of child abuse occurring within Suburban Church;
- 2.2. To work towards an organisational culture of child safety;
- 2.3. To prevent child abuse within Suburban Church.
- 2.4. To ensure that all parties are aware of their responsibilities for identifying possible occasions for child abuse and for establishing controls and procedures for preventing such abuse and/or detecting such abuse when it occurs;
- 2.5. To provide guidance to staff and volunteers as to action that should be taken where they suspect any abuse within or outside of the organisation;
- 2.6. To provide a clear statement to staff, volunteers and participants of the church community forbidding any such abuse;
- 2.7. To provide assurance that any and all suspected abuse will be reported and fully investigated.

### 3. POLICY

- 3.1. Suburban Church is committed to promoting and protecting at all times the best interests of children involved in its programs.

Date: 11/11/2019

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Church

Administrator)

Murray Brown

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Elder)

Decision:

Pastor Tim Loftis

- 3.2. All children regardless of their gender, race, religious beliefs, age, disability, sexual orientation, or family or social background, have equal rights to protection from abuse.
- 3.3. Suburban Church has zero tolerance for child abuse. Everyone working at Suburban Church is responsible for the care and protection of the children within our care and reporting information about suspected child abuse.
- 3.4. Child protection is a shared responsibility between all employees, volunteers, and members of the Suburban Church community.
- 3.5. Suburban Church will consider the opinions of children and use their opinions to develop child protection policies.
- 3.6. Suburban Church supports and respects all children, staff and volunteers. Suburban Church is committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, and those from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children living with a disability.
- 3.7. If any person believes a child to be at immediate risk of abuse they will contact the police, (telephone 000).

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Date: 11/11/2019

Signed:  (Church Administrator)

Print name:

Signed:  (Elder)

Print name

Decision: