**Beeston Methodist Church**

**Guidelines for the transportation of children, young people and vulnerable adults**

*As the people of the Methodist Church we are concerned with the wholeness of each individual within God’s purpose for everyone. We seek to safeguard all members of the church community of all ages. It is the responsibility of each one of us to prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse of children, young people and vulnerable adults.*

For Children and young people transport arrangements to and from church activities are the responsibility of parents if they make arrangements among themselves but are the responsibility of the church if the church organises them. It should be clearly understood by all concerned at which point responsibility for the child/young person is passed from parent to church leader and at which point it is returned to parent.

For vulnerable adults transport arrangements to and from church activities are an agreement between those being transported and the persons transporting them.

**Drivers:**

* All drivers should have attended a Creating Safer Space Course.
* All drivers should have held a full and clean driving licence for over two years.
* Any driver who has an endorsement of 6 points or more on their licence should inform the group leader and the church safeguarding officer.
* Any driver who has an unspent conviction for any serious road traffic offence should not transport children or vulnerable adults for the church
* Drivers must always be in a fit state i.e. not over-tired, not under the influence of alcohol, not taking illegal substances, not under the influence of medicine which may induce drowsiness.
* Drivers who are transporting children/young people and who are not children’s workers should be recruited for the task through the normal recruitment process and the correct forms and checks completed.

**Private Car:**

* The insured person should make sure that their insurance covers the giving of lifts relating to church activities.
* Cars must be in a roadworthy condition and have a current MOT certificate, if required by law.
* Cars must be road taxed, if required by law.
* Seat belts must be worn and appropriate booster seat must be used.
* When transporting children/young people there should be a non-driving adult escort as well as the driver. If in an emergency a driver has to transport one child/young person on his/her own, the child/young person must sit in the back of the car.

**Minibus/Coach:**

* When carrying children/young people, workers/helpers should sit amongst the group and not together.
* If noise or behaviour appears to be getting out of control, stop the vehicle until calm is restored.
* Before using a minibus, ensure you know the up-to-date regulations for its use and have had a trial drive.

**Transportation of Children, Young people or Vulnerable Adults.**

**All drivers who are transporting vulnerable adults on behalf of the Beeston Methodist Church should be familiar with the guidelines on the transportation of children, young people and vulnerable adults.**

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|  | **Signed** | **Date** |
| **I have attended a Creating Safer Space course** |  |  |
| **I have held a full and clean driving licence for over two years.** |  |  |
| **I must be in a fit state to drive.** |  |  |
| **I will not transport children or young people without approval from the Safeguarding Officer.** |  |  |
| **My car has a current MOT certificate, is road taxed (if required by law) and has the correct insurance for transporting passengers for the Beeston Methodist Church** |  |  |

**This form should be returned to Heather Brough.**

**Beeston Methodist Church Safeguarding Officer.**