**Southwark Cathedral Sponsored SleepOut for Robes**

**Safeguarding Policy for Children & Young People Attending the Event**

Southwark Cathedral and Robes takes the safeguarding of children and young people attending the event very seriously. It has been agreed with the Cathedral that no other events will take place during the night of the SleepOut.

The SleepOut will accommodate participation of children aged 7 – 17 years, however parents / legal guardians (or someone acting in loco parentis with signed permission from parent / guardian) are responsible for supervising their child throughout the event.

There will be a named member of Cathedral / Robes staff who will be the designated safeguarding lead throughout the evening. They will have experience in child safeguarding, and have a enhanced criminal DBS check (Disclosure & Barring Service).

Their name and mobile phone number will be made available at the point of registration on the evening of the SleepOut, in case they are needed.

There will be SleepOut Stewards available to assist throughout the night, distinguishable by the wearing of a yellow Robes reflective vest. Stewards patrol the grounds periodically throughout the evening.

The refreshment area is also staffed throughout the night by SleepOut volunteers.

All SleepOut participants are issued with a wrist band as they register on the evening, which allows them access to the SleepOut. No one is permitted entry unless wearing an official wristband.

Young people are issued a different coloured wristband to adults.

All children and young people are required to be in the care of a responsible adult, and a completed separate registration form must be handed in at the point of registration. Children / young people will not be able to participate without a signed copy of this form given.

This form gives details of:

* The details of child / young person taking part
* The details of the responsible adult accompanying the child / young person
* Two people who can be contacted in an emergency
* Medical information for the child / young person
* If a child / young person is being entrusted into the care of a nominated person acting in loco parentis, signed parental / legal guardian consent
* Parental / legal guardian media consent for their child / young person
* If the young person participating is aged 12 – 17 years, they will also be required to sign a behaviour agreement, which is countersigned by the parent / legal guardian

Young people and their responsible adult will be registered at a separate youth registration desk.

**Participants Accompanying Children Aged 7 – 11 Years**

* A maximum of 10 families will be sleeping out with children whose school age is Year 3 – Year 6.
* These families will be sleeping in a designated area inside the Cathedral buildings
* Children aged 7 – 11 years must be supervised at all times by their parents / guardians throughout the course of the SleepOut.
* Children aged 7 – 11 years must be accompanied by their parent / guardian on visits to the toilet or refreshment area
* Parents / guardians will be asked to ensure provision for their child’s medical needs where appropriate