

## **Leader's and member's children or children in their care attending GB Local Group sessions and activities**

### **Policy**

GBM Policy is that children need to be aged four or above to be a member of GB and to attend Local Group sessions and wear uniform.

However, GBM recognises that from time to time Leaders or members may need to take their own children, or children who are in their care eg grandchildren or children in foster care, who are not GB members, to a Local Group session either because of a temporary breakdown in childcare or return by a leader or member to the group following a maternity break.

This should be seen as a temporary measure and not a permanent position within the group. GBM have set out the guidelines below to help groups to support leaders and members in these specific circumstances.

### **Guidelines**

Local Groups should ensure:

- Where the child is of the age to be in GB ie 4 or over, the guidelines and procedures in Life to the Full are to be followed.
- They record any attendance for Leader's children in their attendance register
- There is adequate supervision and staff numbers to reflect the age and number of children.
- Note should be taken of the guidance given by the church where the group meets regarding recommended minimum adult to child ratios.
- Where the child is **under 4** additional guidance is to be followed:
  - That a full risk assessment is in place and that a copy of the risk assessment is provided to the GB Support Centre for insurance purposes.
  - That the child is looked after by a separate adult when the leader has responsibilities with the GB members.
  - That there are suitable baby changing/crèche facilities for young children
  - An area for under fours is provided and is segregated away from the other children/activities
- Where a more permanent measure is required a fully risk assessed plan should be put in place and a copy of the plan provided to the GB Support Centre.
- Separate guidelines are provided for attendance at Residential Events and can be found within the Residential Event Toolkit

These guidelines should be reviewed alongside of The Guidelines and Procedures for Safe Practice in GBM Activities and the Policy Guidelines and Procedures for Safe Practice.