



Mustard Tree Community Church

Connect with God. Grow together. Change our world

Pastoral Case Statement of Intent

Date: 15/11/2024

Issue: 1

The Mustard Tree Community Church
Watsons Road
Longwell Green
Bristol
BS30 9DW

Version History

Version	Date	Changes
V1.0	Nov 2024	Issued

The Mustard Tree Community Church (MTCC) has decided to issue this statement of intent in regard to the pastoral care offered by the MTCC. The aim is to be clear and transparent with anyone who seeks support from those in leadership at the MTCC or from any member.

The MTCC has robust safeguarding policies in place [Policies – Mustard Tree Community Church \(themustardtree.com\)](https://themustardtree.com) which are adhered to by everyone within the MTCC.

Those who may offer pastoral support on behalf of the MTCC understand the following guidelines:

- Pastoral care is NOT a substitute for professional counselling, psychotherapy or psychiatry.
- Pastoral care should never undermine family love and support.
- The MTCC encourages people to seek professional help where necessary and respects all family bonds.
- People can seek guidance and support for their faith journey and can expect to be listened to respectfully.
- In-person prayer support is offered
- There is also the opportunity for larger groups of trusted individuals to pray about specific situations in a confidential, respectful manner.
- Those seeking pastoral care, will be encouraged to develop their own personal relationship with Jesus, in accordance with the Christian faith.
- The expectation is that everyone will be supported to seek guidance from the Bible and the Holy Spirit about their own lives.
- Baptism by full immersion is offered by the MTCC as an outward demonstration of an inward life commitment to the teachings and person of Jesus Christ.
- Communion, which is taking of bread and wine, is also offered freely to anyone who wishes to accept the sacrament. This can be taken within a congregational service or more privately at home.
- Those offering pastoral support will NOT attempt to persuade or coerce anyone into making any decisions.