

Green Acres Baptist Church

Child Protection Policy

It is the desire of Green Acres Baptist Church to protect the children, youth and vulnerable adults by prohibiting any person who may pose a threat from working in a ministry involving children, youth or vulnerable adults. Below are the policies to provide this protection to the children, youth and vulnerable adults.

1. **Two Adult Rule:** Green Acres Baptist Church policy requires at least two unrelated adults (not husband and wife) be present at every function and in each classroom, vehicle or other enclosed area during all activities involving children, youth or vulnerable adults.
2. **Three Person Rule:** However, for the times when the Two Adult Rule cannot be supported, supervision policies and procedures requires at least three individuals (one being an adult) be present at every function and in each classroom, vehicle, or other enclosed area during all activities involving children, youth or vulnerable adults. For special circumstances (overnight trips) that increase the likelihood of abuse or false allegations of abuse, the Two Adult Rule should be preferred.
3. **Six Month Rule:** Green Acres Baptist Church requires an individual to be a member of Green Acres Baptist Church or active in one of the church ministries for six months before becoming a volunteer in the children's/youth programs.
4. **References:** Green Acres Baptist Church requires three references on individuals that are not members of Green Acres Baptist Church and new church members of less than six months. Ministry leadership of the children's/youth ministries must approve all individuals under the Six Month Rule in writing.
5. **Background Checks:** Green Acres Baptist Church requires a criminal background check for all individuals filling out a Volunteer Application to work in the children's/youth programs. All volunteers must pass the criminal background check before working with children, youth or vulnerable adults.