



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY FOR VOLUNTEERS

The aim of the policy is to create a fair system through which the welfare of children is protected. Child Protection involves keeping children safe from the risk of harm caused by abuse (including emotional, physical or sexual abuse). It aims to reduce children's vulnerability by assuring necessary care and protection. The Child Protection Policy is aligned with the rights of all children, ensuring they have the right to protection regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs.

No volunteer shall ever:

- ✓ Hit or otherwise physically abuse a child.
- ✓ Develop relationships with children, which could be interpreted or deemed as inappropriate.
- ✓ Use language or make suggestions that are inappropriate, offensive or abusive.
- ✓ Act in any way that intends to embarrass shame, humiliate or degrade a child
- ✓ Act in ways that may be verbally or physically abusive.
- ✓ Discriminate against a child on the basis of race, economic status, culture, age, gender, disability, religion, sexuality, political persuasion or any other status.
- ✓ Behave or suggest physically or otherwise in a manner, which is inappropriate sexually provocative or may be considered to be sexual abuse.
- ✓ Touch, kiss, hug, fondle, or rub a child in any way that may be considered inappropriate, culturally insensitive or may be construed as sexual abuse.
- ✓ Demonstrate any lessons by physically touching a child that may be considered inappropriate, culturally insensitive or construed as sexual abuse.
- ✓ Provide unsolicited assistance to a child, of a personal nature, that a child could do on its own including but not limited to dressing, bathing, and grooming.
- ✓ Ignore or enable actions when inappropriate conduct has occurred.

All volunteers working with children must agree to comply with the above policy and guidelines.