

IN THE KNOW

For more information about keeping children safe, visit the NSPCC website at www.nspcc.org.uk. The NSPCC is a children's charity that works to prevent abuse and help those affected to recover.

The NSPCC says that parents should be wary of:

- activities where parents are discouraged from staying to watch or become involved
- behaviour or activities that encourage rough play, sexual innuendo, or humiliating punishments
- individuals who take charge and operate independently of organisational guidelines
- individuals who show favouritism or personally reward specific children
- encouragement of inappropriate physical contact
- poor communication and lack of parental involvement, leaving you feeling uneasy
- children who drop out or stop going for no apparent reason
- invitations for children to spend time alone with staff or volunteers (or even to visit their home)

We agree with the NSPCC. We would not expect any of these to occur in programmes associated with Save the Children.

If you see or hear something that concerns you, please tell a member of our staff or call our Child Safeguarding team on 0203 763 0808.

**Download our child-friendly
Child Safeguarding booklet from our website**

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Cover photo: Claire plays with her son Jude, aged five, at a Families and Schools Connect programme.



Magda Rakita / Save the Children

SAFEGUARDING AT SAVE THE CHILDREN



HOW WE KEEP YOUR CHILDREN SAFE A guide for parents and carers

Save the Children believes every child deserves a future. In the UK and around the world, we give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and

protection from harm. We put safeguarding children at the heart of everything we do. In this booklet you can find out more about how we do this.

CHILDREN FIRST

Everyone who works with Save the Children is committed to making sure children feel happy and safe on our programmes.

In this booklet you can find out more about this commitment and how we safeguard children in our work.

If you would like any more information, please get in touch.

How does Save the Children appoint staff and representatives?

Anyone who works with us must share our values and commitment to safeguard children and undergo a safer recruitment process. Depending on the role, this may include things like providing references and answering safeguarding questions at interviews. Anyone who works directly with children must always have a Police Check (DBS check) too.

What training do Save the Children staff and representatives receive?

We want our team to feel confident about their role in safeguarding children. We provide a range of training courses that include topics such as how to identify potential risks to children, the behaviour we expect from staff and how to report a concern.

Does Save the Children have a Child Safeguarding policy?

Yes. The policy outlines:

- how we keep children safe,
- what behaviour we expect from our staff and representatives,
- what happens if the policy is broken,
- and how to report a concern.

If you'd like to see our policy, please ask someone in our team or visit our website.

What behaviour can I expect from Save the Children staff and representatives?

We have a clear code of behaviour, called Children First, which outlines how we expect our staff and representatives to act at work and in their personal lives. If you'd like to see a copy of Children First, please ask someone in our team or visit our website.

How are health and safety issues handled?

We're committed to creating safe environments for children on our programmes to help them learn and grow. This includes things like making sure the space is suitable for children and having a first aider on hand. If you spot anything that may cause an accident, please tell a member of our team as soon as possible.

What's the policy if a child needs personal care?

No matter children's age, race, background and ability we're committed to keeping them safe on our programmes, so staff must always follow our code of behaviour. This means that, except in exceptional circumstances, we wouldn't expect our staff to provide special or direct care such as help with toileting or changing clothes.

When should I report a concern?

Keeping children safe is always our top priority. Help us look after the wellbeing of children who come into contact with us by reporting any concerns you have. If you see, hear, witness, suspect or are told directly about anything that puts your child or someone else's at risk, please tell a member of our team as soon as possible.

WHO CAN I SPEAK TO IF I HAVE A CONCERN?

When you join a programme, a member of staff should tell you who to report a child safeguarding concern to.

If they don't, or you would like to speak to some at our Head Office, please contact our Child Safeguarding team:

0203 763 0808

focalpoint@savethechildren.org.uk

What happens after I report a concern?

Whatever the concern, we will always put the welfare of children first. This means we may need to refer a concern to another organisation who are better placed to help, such as the Police or Social Services. We always take concerns seriously and if it involves a member of our staff or representatives (after consulting with relevant statutory agencies) we will investigate and deal with it appropriately.

Contact us

If you have any questions about Save the Children and our work, please contact our Supporter Care team.

+44 (0)20 7012 6400

www.savethechildren.org.uk
supportercare@savethechildren.org.uk



Lola and Leya, both 5, play at their school.

