



# Safeguarding Policy

Christian Development Uganda is a UK charity that supports, encourages, funds and works with partners in Uganda. This policy applies only to the board of Trustees, volunteer helpers and volunteer visitors to Uganda who travel under the auspices of Christian Development Uganda.

## **The purpose of this policy is:**

- To protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who may be recipients of the services of Christian Development Uganda.
- To provide our trustees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

The trustees of Christian Development Uganda recognize they have a responsibility that comes with working together with our partners in Uganda, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults who receive the various services provided by said partners in Uganda. They therefore undertake to work with them, as far as is possible, to ensure adequate arrangements exist to identify and support those children or vulnerable adults who are suffering from harm or likely to suffer harm.

Our partners in Uganda have their own Safeguarding Policy.

Our policy has been written in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016.

## **Legal framework is:**

- Children Act 2016
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Data Protection in accordance with most recent UK legislation
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- All other relevant government guidance on safeguarding children.

## **We recognize that:**

- The welfare of the child is paramount, as displayed in the Children Act 1989.
- Some children are especially vulnerable due to impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, their communication needs or other issues.
- All children regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or ability, have the right to equal protection.
- Working in partnership with young people, their parents or guardians, vulnerable adults, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of those we need to protect.

## **Our aims:**

- To provide our trustees and volunteers with all necessary information to enable them to meet their statutory responsibilities to promote and safeguard the wellbeing of children.
- To ensure good practice within our agreed partner organizations in Uganda.
- To demonstrate clearly our commitment with regard to safeguarding children.

## **We aim to keep children safe by:**

- Valuing them, listening to them and respecting them as individuals.
- Designating one trustee as Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Implementing safeguarding through procedures and a code of practice for trustees and volunteers which adopts child protection best practices.
- Developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy.
- Providing effective management for all trustees and volunteers through supervision, support and training.
- Recruiting trustees and volunteers safely, ensuring all checks are made.
- Recording and sharing information professionally and securely with children, parents, guardians and volunteers.
- Sharing concerns and relevant information with those who need to know and involving parents, guardians and children appropriately.
- Ensuring we have a safe physical environment for children and young people when Christian Development Uganda volunteers are working in Ugandan primary schools, secondary schools or colleges in Kabale, Uganda.
- Ensuring regular and effective communication with the Designated Safeguarding Lead persons in Uganda.

**This policy is reviewed and approved each year at the Annual General Meeting of the trustees of Christian Development Uganda.**