



Child Protection Policy for the Sudanese Community Association, SAC

17/07/2024

Introduction

The Sudanese Community Association, Cork - SAC is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children with whom it comes into contact. This policy applies to all SAC activities, including fundraising events, information sessions, and communication with beneficiaries in Sudan.

Core Principles

- SAC prioritizes the safety and well-being of all children.
- All children have the right to be protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and all forms of violence.
- SAC has a zero-tolerance policy for child abuse.
- SAC will work in partnership with relevant agencies and organizations to ensure the protection of children.

Procedures

Recruitment and Selection:

- All SAC members and volunteers who may come into contact with children will undergo a Garda vetting check.
- References will be sought for all members and volunteers who may come into contact with children.
- Selection interviews will explore a candidate's understanding of child protection issues and their commitment to safeguarding children.





Training:

- All SAC members and volunteers who may come into contact with children will receive training on child protection, including:
 - o Recognizing signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect.
 - Responding to disclosures of abuse.
 - Reporting procedures.
 - Safeguarding children online.
- Training records will be maintained.

Supervision:

- Adults working with children will be adequately supervised at all times.
- One-to-one situations with children will be avoided unless absolutely necessary.
- Physical contact with children will be appropriate and respectful.

Communication:

- SAC will create a safe and open environment for children to disclose abuse.
- All SAC members and volunteers will be aware of the reporting procedures for suspected child abuse.
- SAC will have a designated Child Protection Officer (CPO) to deal with any concerns or disclosures.

Fundraising Events:

- If children are involved in fundraising events, appropriate safeguarding measures will be put in place, such as parental consent and adult supervision.
- Activities will be age-appropriate and conducted in a safe environment.

Beneficiary Communication:

When communicating with beneficiaries in Sudan, the SAC will be aware of the local child protection laws and work with reputable organizations that prioritize child safety.



Reporting Procedures

- Any SAC member or volunteer who suspects a child is being abused or neglected has a legal and moral obligation to report it.
- Concerns can be reported to the SAC's Child Protection Officer or directly to the Irish authorities:
 - * Tusla - Child and Family Agency: +353 1 645 8888
 - * An Garda Síochána (Irish Police): Emergency - 999 (from Ireland) or +353 1 666 3333 (from abroad)
- All reports will be taken seriously and investigated in accordance with this policy and Irish law.

Confidentiality

The SAC will respect the confidentiality of all those involved in a child protection concern, except where this conflicts with the need to safeguard a child.

Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains up-to-date and reflects best practice in child protection.





Resources

- *Tusla - Child and Family Agency:*

<https://www.childandfamilyagency.org/>

- *The National Children's Network of Ireland: <https://vi.ie/supporting-you/children-young-people/>*

By implementing this child protection policy, the SAC aims to create a safe environment for all children and ensure their well-being is at the forefront of all its activities.

Thank you.

Dr Osama Ali

General Secretary

Sudanese Community Association, Cork -SAC

