

Child Safeguarding and Protection Policy

Expectations for organizations, partners, volunteers, visitors, and individuals working with WEEA

Children's safety and dignity always come before photographs, publicity, fundraising, or convenience.

Our commitment

WEEA believes every child deserves to feel safe, respected, and protected. Anyone working with WEEA or taking part in a WEEA activity must help protect children from harm, abuse, exploitation, neglect, and inappropriate behaviour.

Who this applies to

This policy applies to partner organizations, volunteers, mentors, visitors, photographers, service providers, and any family or community member who participates in WEEA activities involving children.

Working safely with children

- Treat every child with kindness, respect, and dignity.
- Use appropriate language and behaviour. Never hit, threaten, shame, humiliate, exploit, or discriminate against a child.
- Do not be alone with a child in a private or isolated place. Keep interactions visible to other responsible adults.
- Do not ask a child to keep secrets, exchange gifts or assistance for personal attention, or communicate privately outside agreed programme arrangements.
- Follow the activity lead's instructions for supervision, attendance, transport, and collection of children.

Photos, videos, and stories

- Ask the child's parent or guardian for permission before taking or using identifiable photos, videos, names, or personal stories. Explain where the material may appear, such as WEEA's website, social media, reports, or partner communications.
- Also ask the child in an age-appropriate way and respect their wishes. If the child says no or appears uncomfortable, do not take or use the image.
- Joining a WEEA activity does not automatically mean permission to use a child's photo or story.
- Only use respectful images. Never publish content that embarrasses, exposes, humiliates, sexualizes, or puts a child at risk.
- Do not publish a child's full name, home address, school schedule, contact details, or sensitive personal story alongside their image.
- Share images only with people who need them for the agreed purpose. Store them securely and do not reuse them for another campaign or partner without checking permission.

If you are worried about a child

Tell the WEEA project lead or designated safeguarding contact as soon as possible. If a child is in immediate danger, seek urgent help from the appropriate local services. Do not investigate the situation yourself or promise to keep a safety concern secret.

Partner expectations

Organizations and individuals working with WEEA are expected to explain these rules to their team members, follow safe practices during joint activities, and raise concerns promptly. WEEA may pause a joint activity if a child's safety is at risk.

For partnership enquiries: Please contact WEEA through its official organizational contact channels.