



TABS
— INTERNATIONAL —
TOGETHER • ACHIEVING • BELIEVING • SUSTAINING

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & VULNERABLE ADULTS

A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18

A Vulnerable Adult is anyone “who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of disability, age or illness; and is or may be unable to take care of unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation”. (Who Decides - Lord Chancellor's Department 1997 Consultation)

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility:

Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults is a part of the wider role of safeguarding and promoting welfare. This refers to the activity which is undertaken to protect specific children, young people and vulnerable adults who are suffering or are at risk of suffering significant harm. As adults and/or professionals or volunteers, everyone has a responsibility to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults and promote their welfare.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults - and in particular protecting them from significant harm - depends upon effective joint working between agencies and professionals that have different roles and expertise.

Some of the most vulnerable children, young people and adults and those at greatest risk of social exclusion, will need coordinated help from health, education, social care, and quite possibly the voluntary sector and other agencies, including justice services.

For those children, young people and vulnerable adults who are suffering, or at risk of suffering significant harm, joint working is essential, to safeguard and promote their welfare and - where necessary - to help bring to justice the perpetrators of crimes against them. All agencies and professionals should:

- ✓ be alert to potential indicators of abuse or neglect;
- ✓ be alert to the risks which individual abusers, or potential abusers, may pose to children, young people and vulnerable adults;



TABS

INTERNATIONAL

TOGETHER • ACHIEVING • BELIEVING • SUSTAINING

- ✓ share and help to analyse information so that an assessment can be made of the individual's needs and circumstances;
- ✓ contribute to whatever actions are needed to safeguard and promote the individual's welfare;
- ✓ take part in regularly reviewing the outcomes for the individual against specific plans; and
- ✓ work co-operatively with parents and/or other carers unless this is inconsistent with ensuring the individual's safety.

As one of its major activities the charity seeks to serve the needs of children, young people and vulnerable adults, promoting holistic development.

In doing so the charity takes seriously the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults who are involved in its activities.

The charity aims to ensure that they are welcomed into a safe, caring environment with a happy and friendly atmosphere.

The charity recognises that it is the responsibility of each one of its staff, paid and unpaid, to prevent the neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse of children, young people and vulnerable adults and to report any abuse discovered or suspected.

The charity recognises its responsibility to implement, maintain and regularly review procedures, which are designed to prevent and to be alert to such abuse.

The charity is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who work with children, young people and vulnerable adults and to providing supervision.

The charity is committed to maintaining good links with the statutory social services authorities.



TABS

INTERNATIONAL

TOGETHER • ACHIEVING • BELIEVING • SUSTAINING

Procedures

For reasons of consistency and practicality, the charity's procedures for safeguarding vulnerable adults will be the same as those for safeguarding children and young people (qv) except where the law, or the specific circumstances of an individual's need require otherwise.

1. Safer Recruitment.

- All trustees will be required to apply in writing. They will be required to supply two referees who are not related to them by family connection ie blood relatives or by marriage / civil contract. All trustees will be required to undergo a DBS check.
- Volunteers may be required to apply in writing for involvement in a particular post or activity if it is deemed necessary and may be required to supply references and /or undertake a DBS check
- All checks need to have been completed prior to trustee / volunteer taking up their roles
- Where a risk is identified a full risk assessment and if appropriate risk management plan will be undertaken

2. Disclosure

If anyone connected with TABS International becomes aware of any abuse having been perpetrated or receives a disclosure from a child, young person or vulnerable adult they should:

- listen carefully to what is being said.
- not try and investigate the situation
- write down as soon as possible a factual account
- not promise to keep any secrets. It is important to reassure the individual you are taking what they are saying seriously and may well need to tell others
- depending upon the seriousness of the situation you may need to contact the Police or your local authority Safeguarding team as a matter of urgency
- in all situations pass on your concerns / information to a TABS International trustee as soon as possible
- always ensure the Chair of TABS International is informed. They will ensure, in consultation with whoever is appropriate, that the appropriate



TABS

INTERNATIONAL

TOGETHER • ACHIEVING • BELIEVING • SUSTAINING

follow on action is taken. If the issue involves the Chair, information should be passed to another Trustee.

- A written record should be completed and held securely

3. Travel to Projects abroad

All volunteers travelling to our Project(s) abroad will be required to respect and follow Safeguarding Procedures as a matter of course. These include:

- Agreeing to a full and thorough risk assessment of their own needs including a risk management plan should that be deemed necessary
- Ensuring they have the full kit list required for country of travel and to have followed expert advice from their health clinic for inoculations and malaria prophylaxis
- TABS International providing all volunteers with awareness training of their responsibility in relation to Safeguarding. This will include UK and country of visit requirements
- Volunteers following the guidance of trip leaders at all times. Failure to do so may result in their returning home early

4. Fundraising and media

- TABS International will make fundraisers aware of their responsibility to undertake risk assessments appropriate to specific fundraising activities (see Fundraising pack including A to Z of Fundraising)
- TABS International commit to requesting consent for use of photographs and other personal information for all media and fundraising purposes
- Please see TABS International GDPR Statement for further information on storing personal data

5. Training

Trustees and volunteers will be supported to update their knowledge, training and experience when dealing with Safeguarding issues

6. Review

This Policy and associated Procedures will be reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees



TABS
— INTERNATIONAL —
TOGETHER • ACHIEVING • BELIEVING • SUSTAINING

Change Record

Date of Change:	Changed By:	Comments: