presahy

Child Protection Policy

Effective from: 20. 9. 2025
Child Protection Coordinator: Dana Freyová
Contact: dana@presahy.sk, +421 905 102 695

www.presahy.sk

1. Introduction and Principles

Our organisation is committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all children and young people who participate in our activities or come into contact with our work.

We recognise the right of every child to be protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation, as enshrined in:

- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union
- The General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679)
- Relevant national laws and child protection frameworks

Core principles:

- All children have equal rights to protection, regardless of age, gender, ability, ethnicity, culture, religion, or background.
- The best interests of the child are paramount.
- Everyone in the organisation shares responsibility for safeguarding children.
- Our programmes and operations must “do no harm.”

2. Definitions

- **Child** - Any person under the age of 18.
- **Abuse** - All forms of physical, emotional, and sexual harm, neglect, exploitation, trafficking, child pornography, grooming, and cyberbullying.
- **Vulnerable children** - Children with disabilities, from marginalised groups, or in crisis situations requiring increased protection.

3. People, Recruitment, Training

Recruitment and Selection

- All staff working with children are selected with care, based on their skills, experience, and attitude towards working with children.
- Recruitment processes include interviews and reference checks where possible, to assess values and suitability for child-related work.
- Everyone engaged in our activities is required to confirm in writing that they have read, understood, and will comply with this Child Protection Policy.

Training

- All staff and volunteers receive induction training on this policy, children's rights, recognising abuse, and reporting procedures.

Responsibilities

- The Child Protection Coordinator oversees implementation, reporting, and liaison with authorities.
- All staff, volunteers, and partners are responsible for upholding this policy.

4. Code of Conduct

All team members must:

- Treat children with respect and dignity.
- Act as positive role models.
- Promote equality and non-discrimination.
- Respect children's privacy.

They must never:

- Physically or emotionally punish, shame, or humiliate a child.
- Engage in or encourage inappropriate, exploitative, or sexual behaviour with a child (online or offline).
- Be alone with a child in closed or isolated spaces without justification.
- Photograph, film, or record children without prior written consent from a parent/guardian.
- Share personal information, images, or data of children on social media without consent.

5. Prevention, Safe Environment

- Activities are held in safe, accessible, and child-friendly spaces.
- Written consent from parents/guardians is required for children's participation.
- Staff ensure appropriate supervision ratios during activities.
- Online and digital activities follow clear guidelines for safety and privacy.
- This policy is publicly available and explained to children and parents in accessible language.

6. Reporting and Response Procedures

Any suspicion or concern regarding harm to a child must be reported immediately to the Coordinator.

Steps to follow

1. Make a written record (date, time, place, persons involved, description).
2. Do not investigate yourself.
3. Report to the Coordinator without delay.

Coordinator responsibilities

- Evaluate the case and decide next steps.
- Contact relevant authorities if required:
  - Police of the Slovak Republic – 158
  - Labour, Social Affairs and Family Office – Child Protection – 0800 191 222

Confidentiality

- All reports are treated confidentially in line with GDPR and shared only with authorized persons.

7. Data Protection and Media

- Children's personal data is collected and stored only when necessary, with parental consent, and in line with GDPR.
- Photos, videos, and stories of children are used only for agreed purposes with explicit parental/guardian permission.
- Identifiable details such as addresses, schools, or geotags will never be shared.

8. Accountability and Monitoring

- The Child Protection Coordinator is responsible for implementation.
- Regular review and update of this policy are mandatory.
- All partners and contractors must comply with this policy or its equivalent.
- Children and families are informed about rights and ways to make complaints.
- Monitoring and evaluation of safeguarding measures are integrated into organisational processes.

9. Contacts

- **Child Protection Coordinator, Občianske združenie Presahy**: Dana Freyová, dana@presahy.sk, +421 905 102 695
- **Police of the Slovak Republic**: 158
- **Child Helpline**: 116 111, www.ldi.sk, available 24/7,
- **ÚPSVaR – Child Protection**: 0800 191 222

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