

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

PEER Organization For Youth Development

2022



Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Peer organization for youth development

Date: (2022)

1 .Introduction

(Peer organization for youth development) is committed to creating a safe and protective environment for children and young people involved in our programs and activities. This Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy outlines our commitment to preventing child abuse, promoting child rights, and responding to any concerns or incidents that may arise.

2 .Policy Statement

2.1 **Peer organization for youth development)** recognizes the rights of every child to be protected from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence.

2.2 .We are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment that promotes the well-being, dignity, and rights of children and young people.

2.3 .We adhere to local laws and international conventions, including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

3 .Key Principles

3.1 .Best Interest of the Child: The best interest of the child is our primary consideration in all actions and decisions.

3.2 .Non-Discrimination: We do not discriminate against any child or young person based on their gender, age, disability, ethnicity, religion, or any other characteristic.

3.3 .Participation: We encourage and respect the active participation of children and young people in matters that affect them.

3.4 .Confidentiality: All information related to child protection concerns is treated confidentially and shared only with relevant personnel on a need-to-know basis.

3.5 .Accountability: We are accountable for ensuring the implementation and effectiveness of this policy.

4 .Roles and Responsibilities

4.1 .Focal Point for Child Protection: [Ali Khareem Asfoor – Coordinator@ypeeriraq.org] has been appointed as the focal point for child protection within [**Peer organization for youth development**]]. They are responsible for coordinating and overseeing all child protection-related matters, including responding to concerns, providing support, and ensuring compliance with this policy.

4.2 .Staff and Volunteers: All staff and volunteers are responsible for safeguarding children and young people by following this policy, reporting any concerns, and participating in relevant training and awareness programs.

5 .Prevention and Protection Measures

5.1 .Recruitment and Screening: We have robust recruitment procedures in place, including background checks, to ensure that individuals working with children and young people are suitable and safe.

5.2 .Code of Conduct: We have a clear code of conduct that outlines expected behavior towards children and young people, including guidelines for appropriate physical contact and communication.

5.3 .Training and Capacity Building: We provide regular training and capacity building opportunities to staff and volunteers on child protection, recognizing signs of abuse, and appropriate response mechanisms.

5.4 .Reporting Mechanisms: We have established clear procedures for reporting and responding to child protection concerns, including a confidential reporting mechanism for staff, volunteers, children, and their families.

5.5 .Risk Assessment: We conduct regular risk assessments to identify potential risks and implement necessary measures to mitigate them.

5.6 .Partnerships and Collaboration: We collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including local authorities and child protection organizations, to strengthen child protection efforts and share best practices.

6 .Responding to Concerns

6.1 .Reporting and Recording: All concerns and incidents related to child protection are promptly reported to the designated focal point and documented in a secure manner.

6.2 .Supportive Response: We provide appropriate support and assistance to children, young people, and their families who have experienced or reported abuse or exploitation.

6.3 .Referrals and Cooperation: We cooperate with relevant authorities and agencies in handling child protection cases, including making referrals for further investigation and support.

7 .Review and Monitoring

7.1 .Regular Review: This policy is subject to regular review to ensure its relevance and effectiveness.

7.2 .Monitoring and Evaluation: We monitor and evaluate the implementation of this policy and related procedures to identify areas for improvement and ensure compliance.

8 .Dissemination and Training

8.1 .Policy Dissemination: This policy is communicated to all staff, volunteers, and relevant stakeholders, and it is available in accessible formats.

8.2 .Training and Awareness: We provide regular training and awareness programs on child protection to staff, volunteers, and others involved in our programs.