

Child Protection Policy

Last update: 01/05/2024

The consortium composed of **Maghweb, CPS (Centre of Peace Studies), ANP | WWF, Asociação Polylogos** from here on referred to as the “consortium” is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people in its care. For the purposes of this policy and associated procedures a child is recognised as any person under the age of 18 years. It recognises the full responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. The consortium acknowledges its duty to act appropriately to any allegations, reports or suspicions of abuse. Paid staff, volunteers and teachers involved in the project will work together to ensure a healthy work environment which embraces and protects difference and diversity and respects article 21 Non-discrimination of the European Convention of Human rights whereby “any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, colour or ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation shall be prohibited.” This document outlines the consortium's commitment to protecting children, according to UN Convention on the rights of the child and national laws.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- 1) prevent harm abuse and exploitation of children and young people who receive services from the consortium during the Lives in Motion project;
- 2) to protect children and young people who receive services from the consortium;
- 3) to provide staff and volunteers on the Lives in Motion project with the overarching principles that guide a collective approach to child protection, and to ensure that all staff and volunteers abide by these standards.

Guiding Principles and Objectives

The consortium believes and implements the belief that a child or young person must never experience abuse of any kind. The consortium understands and assumes the responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, and to keep them safe. The consortium is committed to working in a way that protects children as they grow, mature and are challenged in a healthy and safe learning environment.

This policy is based on the following principles:

- The welfare of children is the primary concern.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse.

- Child protection is everyone's responsibility.
- Children have the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so.
- Organisations shall work in partnership together with children and parents/carers to promote the welfare, health and development of children.

The policy has the following objectives within the project:

- to provide non-formal educational activities for children and young people that help them develop from childhood into adulthood in non-formal educational environments and to support them in this process.
- to enable children to express themselves in a free and healthy way within learning environments.
- to assist children in integrating into the larger community within learning environments.
- to help children and young people appreciate the diversity of their cultures on a local and transnational level.

Definitions

Child: For the purposes of this policy and associated procedures a child is recognised as any person under the age of 18 years.

Child protection: includes all activities undertaken with the aim of protecting children from risks and harm. It refers to all policies, prevention measures, response actions to allegations, and all other procedures designed to keep children safe and promote their development. The overall goal of child protection is to create a safe environment by preventing harm to children's development and to promote their wellbeing.

Child abuse: occurs when a child is harmed by an adult or another child, physically, sexually, or emotionally, intentionally or through negligence.

Physical abuse: is any deliberate act that may result in physical harm of a child. It can be, but is not limited to: bruising, cutting, hitting, beating, biting, burning, causing abrasions, strangulation, suffocation, drowning, poisoning and fabricated or induced illness. Furthermore, physical abuse also occurs when the child is given drugs that they do not need by their caregivers, thus giving rise to/inducing illnesses.

Sexual abuse and exploitation: involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities as well as non-contact acts such as involving children in the looking at or production of sexual images, sexual activities and sexual behaviours. Sexual abuse may include, but is not limited to, all forms of sexual violence, groping or molestation, incest, forced early marriage and voyeurism. Sexual abuse can happen both in person and online; when it occurs in person it does

not necessarily involve physical contact, for example a child may be encouraged to behave in a sexually provocative manner, or may be exposed to pornographic material. The child may not be aware that they are being sexually abused. The exploitation of children consists of using children for personal or financial advantage, sometimes in exchange for "something" that the child needs or desires, for example money, accommodation, gifts, drugs. Unequal power dynamics are a component of exploitation in all cases. Child exploitation involves various forms of child abuse and can also occur online.

Psychological / Emotional abuse: is the persistent emotional ill-treatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effect on the child's emotional development. This can include a pattern of rejecting, degrading, ignoring, isolating, corrupting, exploiting, terrorising, humiliation, criticism, accusations, blaming, intimidation, shouting, reject. It may also include age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. It also includes the seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of others. Psychological abuse is usually repeated in the time and can have a strong impact on the child's mental development. To some extent, all forms of abuse, exploitation and abandonment of children involve psychological abuse.

Neglect: is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, causing long term serious harm to the child's health or development. It may also include neglect of a child's basic or emotional needs.

Scope and Roles and Responsibilities of Staff

All representatives of the consortium and their associated collaborators during Lives in Motion must read and comply with the measures outlined in this document, including:

- All staff (full-time and part-time employees and contractors)
- Trainers
- Volunteers and interns
- Eventual guest participants at events
- Teachers

It is the responsibility of staff to be vigilant, have knowledge and awareness of the indicators of neglect, potential or actual abuse and to report any concerns, suspicions or allegations of suspected abuse immediately and ensure that the concern is taken seriously and reported. The consortium will have an appointed a Child Protection Advisor. This function will be held by: Giuseppe Gabriele Tramontana, legal representative of the applicant organisation.

The consortium will:

- Promote the health and welfare of children by providing "safe spaces" and trained educators for them to take part in activities safely.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of children and protect them from abuse.
- Recruit, train, support and supervise its staff, members and volunteers to adopt

best practice to safeguard and protect children from abuse and to reduce risk to themselves.

- Require staff, members and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and these procedures.
- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse of children in line with this Policy and these procedures as well as implementing, where appropriate, the relevant disciplinary and appeals procedures.
- Observe guidelines issued by local Child Protection Committees for the protection of children.
- Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and these procedures.

Risks

Due to the challenging nature of the content of the non-formal educational toolkit developed within the project, children may be at risk of emotional harm due to difficult and often painful information regarding migrations, discrimination dynamics within migrations and the difficulty of managing power and privilege, both in relation to this theme and in the actual learning environment in which they will participate in the non-formal educational resource.

Principles of Conduct when coming in contact or working with children

A. Prior to performing any work duties, staff members, volunteers and interns must sign and date a copy of the Lives in Motion Child Protection Policy

B. All external collaborators and associates who work or may come in contact with children through the project's activities, are provided with a copy of the Child Protection Policy and must sign it prior to any involvement.

C. Code of Conduct includes the procedures for data collection and treatment of data about children and young people. Data privacy and protection issues shall comply with relevant EU rules (especially the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU) 2016/679. If personal data about children and young people needs to be collected, written informed consent must be sought from their parents or legal guardians. The data will be collected and used only for the specific purposes for which they are provided. Staff working directly with children and needing to collect personal data about children or young people must refer to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU) 2016/679. The members of the consortium do not share the personal data it collects with any other entity, unless formal explicit consent is given.

D. All publications must comply with the Child Protection Policy, before being publicised or shared.

E. Data, including images, of children and young people are only collected if strictly necessary and foreseen as specific to the Lives in Motion project activities and dissemination implemented by the consortium. The photos will not portray the face or in any case signs of recognition of children. Their use is therefore only limited to the specific purpose for which they were

collected. Prior to any collection or sharing of data, the consortium always obtains permission from the child's parents or legal guardians, as well as approval from the child. Explicit consent from the child's parents or legal guardians and themselves is a prerequisite for gathering or sharing any data about the child, in accordance with GDPR and national law. Acquired images and data are stored on the consortium members' local servers and are accessible only by the staff, volunteers and interns who have signed the Child Protection Policy, and therefore have credentials to access these.

F. The rules and expectations stated in this Child Protection Policy must be shared with each new staff member, volunteer and intern, and are regularly reinforced with existing staff, volunteers and interns. This is included in the induction training, as well as through specific children's rights and child protection trainings.

G. All members of staff, volunteers, interns, external collaborators and associates have the obligation to report any suspicion or knowledge of child abuse. Staff, volunteers and interns are instructed to report any perceived gaps between policy and practice. Staff, volunteers and interns working directly or coming in contact with children must be instructed on the correct procedures to follow in case they suspect or have knowledge of a situation of child abuse.

Review

This Policy and these Procedures will be regularly reviewed:

- In accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on the protection of children or following any changes within the consortium
- Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of children within the consortium.
- In all other circumstances, at least every three years.

Date 01/05/2024

Signatures

A.P.S. Maghweb

- President

Giuseppe Gabriele Tramontana



CPS Centre of Peace Studies

- President

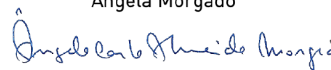
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