



Child Protection Policy

COPY OF MARYBEN FOUNDATION (MBF POLICY)

1. Policy Statement

States Parties shall protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse. (UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), Article 19)

Members of the **Maryben Foundation** have a common commitment to the prevention of child abuse and the protection of children. The abuse and exploitation of children **happen** in all countries and societies across the world.

This policy sets out common values, principles, and beliefs and describes the steps that **will be** taken in meeting our commitment to protect children.

The policy was adopted by the **Maryben Foundation's** Member's **Meeting May 2023**.

2. Our values, principles and beliefs

- All child abuse involves the abuse of children's rights.
- All children have equal rights to protection from abuse and exploitation.
- The situation of all children must be improved through promotion of their rights as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This includes the right to freedom from abuse and exploitation.
- Child abuse is never acceptable
- We have a commitment to protecting children with/ for whom we work
- When we work through partners, they have a responsibility to meet minimum standards of protection for children in their programmes.

3. What we will do

We will meet our commitment to protect children from abuse through the following means:

Awareness: we will ensure that all staff and others are aware of the problem of child abuse and the risks to children.

Prevention: we will ensure, through awareness and good practice, that staff and others minimize the risks to children.

Reporting: we will ensure that staff and others are clear what steps to take where concerns arise regarding the safety of children.

Responding: we will ensure that action is taken to support and protect children where concerns arise regarding possible abuse.

In order that the above standards of reporting and responding are met, members of the International Maryben Foundation will also ensure that they:

- take seriously any concerns raised
- take positive steps to ensure the protection of children who are the subject of any concerns
- support children, staff or other adults who raise concerns or who are the subject of concerns
- act appropriately and effectively in instigating or co-operating with any subsequent process of investigation
- are guided through the child protection process by the principle of ‘best interests of the child’
- listen to and takes seriously the views and wishes of children
- work in partnership with parents/carers and/or other professionals to ensure the protection of children.

4. How we will ensure our commitments above are met

- All **Maryben Foundation** staff (locally appointed and internationally appointed) will sign up to and abide by the attached code of conduct
- All partners will sign and abide by the code of conduct
- All staff and volunteers will have access to a copy of the child protection policy
- Recruitment procedures will include checks on suitability for working with young people
- Induction will include briefing on child protection issues
- Every workplace will display contact details for reporting possible child abuse and every member of staff will have contact details for reporting.
- Systems will be established by every Member to investigate possible abuse once reported and to deal with it
- Training, learning opportunities and support will be provided by Maryben Foundation members as appropriate to ensure commitments are met.

Annex 1: Child Protection Policy Declaration Form

Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

Department/Unit: _____

Date: _____

I hereby declare that I have read and understood the Maryben Foundation Conflict of Interest Policy. To the best of my knowledge, I have no conflicts of interest to declare, except as noted below:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

I commit to disclose any new conflicts of interest that may arise during my engagement with the Foundation.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

