



## ***Online Safeguarding Policy Statement***

The Online Safeguarding Policy serves as an addendum to the Oxford Armenia Foundation's Safeguarding Policy, originally published in March 2021. This document outlines additional measures to ensure safe and secure online interactions with beneficiaries.

Oxford Armenia Foundation works with children and families as part of its activities. These include OAF's Online English Conversation Classes.

### **The purpose of the safeguarding policy statement is to:**

- ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people is paramount when adults, young people or children are using the internet, social media or mobile devices
- provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to online safety
- ensure that, as an organisation, we operate in line with our values and within the law in terms of how we use online devices.

The policy statement applies to all staff, volunteers, children and young people and anyone involved in Oxford Armenia Foundation's activities.

### **We believe that:**

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- children should be able to use the internet for education and personal development, but safeguards need to be in place to ensure they are always kept safe.

### **We recognise that:**

- the online world provides everyone with many opportunities; however, it can also present risks and challenges.
- we have a duty to ensure that all children, young people and adults involved in our organisation are protected from potential harm online.
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare and in helping young people to be responsible in their approach to online safety.

- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.

**We will seek to keep children, young people and adults safe by:**

- appointing an online safety coordinator: Lilit Asatryan +44 7717 188152 WhatsApp or oxfordarmeniafoundation@gmail.com
- providing clear and specific directions to our volunteers on how to behave on the online classes
- supporting and encouraging all participants of our classes via Zoom and related WhatsApp groups in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others
- developing clear procedures to enable us to respond appropriately to any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour, whether by an adult or a child
- ensuring that children and adults use personal information exclusively within the scope of the project
- ensuring that images of children and adults are used only after their permission has been obtained, and only for the purpose for which consent has been given in writing
- providing supervision, support and training for staff and volunteers about online safety
- regularly examining and risk assessing the technologies we are using to deliver our projects
- reviewing and updating the security of our information systems regularly

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