

FreeSchools World Literacy Child Protection Code of Conduct

I, _____ [insert name],

engaged by FreeSchools World Literacy, agree that while implementing AusAID-funded aid and other activities, I will:

- Treat children with respect regardless of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status.
- Not use language or behaviour towards children that is inappropriate, harassing, abusive, sexually provocative, demeaning or culturally inappropriate.
- Not engage children in any form of sexual activity or acts, including paying for sexual services or acts, where under the law(s) applicable to the child (including Part IIIA of the Australian Crimes Act 1914 (Cwlth) as amended), the child is below the age of consent or the act(s) are an offence under relevant laws.
- Wherever possible, ensure that another adult is present when working in the proximity of children.
- Not invite unaccompanied children into my home, unless they are at immediate risk of injury or in physical danger.
- Not sleep close to unsupervised children unless absolutely necessary, in which case I must obtain my supervisor's permission, and ensure that another adult is present if possible.
- Use any computers, mobile phones, or video and digital cameras appropriately, and never to exploit or harass children or to access child pornography through any medium.
- Refrain from physical punishment or discipline of children.
- Refrain from hiring children for domestic or other labour which is inappropriate given their age or developmental stage, which interferes with their time available for education and recreational activities, or which places them at significant risk of injury.
- Comply with all relevant Australian and local legislation, including labour laws in relation to child labour.
- Immediately report concerns or allegations of child abuse in accordance with appropriate procedures.

Use of children's images for work related purposes

When photographing or filming a child for work related purposes, I must:

- Before photographing or filming a child, assess and endeavour to comply with local traditions or restrictions for reproducing personal images.
- Before photographing or filming a child, obtain consent from the child or a parent or guardian of the child. As part of this I must explain how the photograph or film will be used. Ensure photographs, films, videos and DVDs present children in a dignified and respectful manner and not in a vulnerable or submissive manner. Children should be adequately clothed and not in poses that could be seen as sexually suggestive.
- Ensure images are honest representations of the context and the facts.
- Ensure file labels do not reveal identifying information about a child when sending images electronically.
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I understand that the onus is on me, as a person engaged by FreeSchools World Literacy, to use common sense and avoid actions or behaviours that could be construed as child abuse at all times.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

This Code is to be signed by all volunteers and staff at the commencement of their service with FREESCHOOLS WORLD LITERACY and its interpretation and application will be discussed at least annually in an appropriate forum.

[Adopted by FREESCHOOLS WORLD LITERACY Committee of Management, February 2010]