

OCI Foundation International

Sponsors of the: (i) Cyfed Undergraduate Scholarships (ii) CBH Scholarships (iii) IFOMSSA Junior Awards (iv) IFOMSSA Senior Awards and (v) Annual JAMB Awards (vi) ArOY Health Campaign (vii) LAMS Initiative (viii) The Gynocular Project



"...we rise, by lifting others"

Child Safeguarding Procedures (March 2025)

1 PURPOSE

These OCI Foundation Child Safeguarding Procedures outline the commitments and guidance required for our organisation to safeguard children. It covers all locations of operation for the OCI Foundation, including Australia, Nigeria and the United Kingdom.

According to the Australian Institute of Family Studies and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, a child is defined as a person under the age of 18 years.

2 SCOPE

This applies to all staff, volunteers, and others associated with the OCI Foundation in any capacity, including full-time and part-time employees, national and international staff, short-term and long-term contractors, board and trustee members, and all other individuals.

3 INTRODUCTION

- a) Safeguarding includes actions taken to support children's welfare and protect them against all forms of harm and abuse.
- b) Some child safeguarding measures include those that:
 - Protect children from maltreatment, neglect and abuse.
 - Prevent harm to their development, health and wellbeing.
 - Empower them towards their full potential.
 - Builds a safe culture and environment for children.
- c) To achieve the foregoing, the OCI Foundation commits to the following:
 - Creating an atmosphere that prioritises children's well-being and safety is paramount.
 - Placing emphasis on genuinely engaging and valuing children and young people
 - Creating conditions that will minimise the harm to children and young people.
 - Promptly responding to concerns, allegations and suspicions of harm.
 - Any suspicion of child exploitation and abuse suspicions or allegations should be reported using the link below.
 - In cases of policy breaches, violations and non-compliance with this policy, sanctions will be applied.
 - Ensuring that our recruitment, screening and training processes align with the stated values of child safeguarding.

- Communication of this Child Safeguarding policy and procedures to all governing body members, staff, volunteers, visitors to projects and partners.
- Reporting of any donors that require reporting under any funding agreements.
- Provision of child safeguarding training for personnel at induction and at three-yearly intervals thereafter. A few examples of the components of such training include activities that (i) allow personnel to recognise indicators of child abuse, (ii) understand the associated legal obligations, and (iii) promote child empowerment.
- Preventing a person from working with children if they pose an unacceptable risk to children.
- Assessment of risks and the monitoring of safeguarding processes for all activities.
- The use of images and personal information for promotional, fundraising, and educational development purposes, ensuring the privacy and safeguarding of children.
- A recruitment screening process that will include criminal record checks and behaviour-based interviews.
- Employment contracts that contain provisions for preventing a person from working with children if they present an unacceptable risk to children, provisions for suspending or transferring an employee to other duties during an investigation, and provisions for dismissing an employee after an investigation.

4 REVIEW OF POLICY

This policy is subject to review in March 2028, three years after its implementation.

This can be sooner if legislation or other events warrant so.

5 COMPLAINTS/FEEDBACK

If you feel violated in any way by anyone associated with the OCI Foundation, please contact us immediately via the link [HERE](#). For our various countries of operation, these numbers can also be reached:

1. Australia: +61755808331
2. Nigeria: +2348066092959
3. United Kingdom: +447415676767