

Child Protection Summary

School Enterprise Challenge Awards Programme 2020

Teach A Man To Fish and Child Protection

Teach A Man To Fish takes Child Protection very seriously. We believe that keeping children safe is a central concern for all those working to broaden children's access to education and to reduce poverty. Child protection is crucial to ensuring that children under 18 years of age have the rights, confidence and environment in which they can make choices, express their views and communicate effectively with other children and adults regardless of their age, gender, race, disability or religious belief. Children cannot become empowered change agents to improve their lives and that of their families and communities if they are not aware of their right to be safe from abuse and safeguarded from abuse, discrimination and harm of any kind, be it physical, sexual, emotional or neglect.

In relation to school businesses **Teach A Man To Fish believes that student wellbeing overrides all other considerations, particularly business profit.**

What we expect from schools and partners participating in the School Enterprise Challenge

Schools participating in the School Enterprise Challenge must make sure that any business that is set up **benefits the learning of the students.**

Any business that is set up and run for learning and income-generating purposes **must not:**

- Put children at risk of exploitation,
- At risk of harm to children's health or education,
- At risk of danger
- Contravene local labour law.

Tasks children undertake in school businesses must be **safe** and **appropriate to their age** and should not jeopardize their right to education, relaxation and play (Article 32, UNCRC).

Repetitive tasks should only be carried out if the young people are learning new skills through them or developing further their existing skills.

Teach A Man To Fish also encourages schools involved in the School Enterprise Challenge to have their own clear guidelines and processes in place for acceptable and unacceptable behaviour to help their staff safeguard children. We encourage you to speak with other schools and share child protection policies. Teach A Man To Fish would also be happy to share their Child Protection Policy, however, please note that this is for the context of an NGO and not a school. You can email us at info@schoolenterprisechallenge.org for more information.

The table below outlines suggested implementation for child protection measures which you could do in your school:

Child protection measure	Suggested activity
1. Children should be made aware of their right to be safe from abuse ¹	There could be announcements during school assembly/meetings, to inform all pupils that the school supports their right to be safe from abuse.
2. Children should be provided with information on where to go to for help and advice in relation to abuse, harassment and bullying	During the assembly, pupils could also be told where they can find information about where to go for help and advice about these issues. There could be a poster displayed at school with 3 sources of help and advice for children on these issues.
3. There should be well-publicised ways in which school staff can raise concerns, confidentially if necessary, about unacceptable behaviour by other staff or representatives or visitors to schools	School staff could decide in staff meeting how staff can raise concerns about unacceptable behaviour – who do they tell? What details do they give? We suggest putting this information on a small poster displayed in the staff room.
4. There should be clear mechanisms for dealing with concerns and incidents and how to escalate an incident/issue within a school.	You could encourage school staff to identify types of abuse that children are exposed to, then identify what to do if school management receive reports of any of these types of abuse. We suggest also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting these in a document and ensuring that all school staff are aware • Delegating ‘Child Protection Officer’ to one teacher / a group of teachers • Having a proper incident form which is submitted to the school management / Child Protection Officer(s) • Involving the Parent Teacher Committee in deciding how to deal with any incidents reported
5. Appropriate contact details should be readily available at school, this could be for example for national authorities (i.e. police), emergency medical help and local child protection organisations or resources	You could encourage school staff to make a list of useful contact details as described and put these on a poster and display at school.

Communications and Photography

This covers ALL publications and ALL online media, including personal social media accounts such as personal Facebook accounts, which include images and text related to children.

In participating in the School Enterprise Challenge you may like to include photographs and videos in your reports, or enter photographs and videos in our mini competitions.

¹ As defined in the UNHCR document Action for the Rights of Children Abuse and Exploitation p. 6 which can be read here: <http://www.unhcr.org/3bb81aea4.pdf>

Please read our guidelines carefully and make sure you observe the following:

Always:

- Acquire informed consent / the permission of the child
- Acquire informed consent / the permission of the child's parent/guardian/NGO responsible for the child or teacher, as required by your local law, in order to use the image for publicity, fundraising, awareness-raising or other purpose (which should be made clear to the consent-giver).
- Ask participants if they would prefer to use their real name or a changed name in a story
- Respect the child's right to dignity
- Act professionally when using social media if engaging with children on the same social media platform.

Never:

- Take pictures or videos of a child without their individual verbal or symbolic consent (for example, asking them to put their hand up if they don't want to be in the photo)
- Share personal information (such as exact village/location and full name) which could put a child at risk in any of your reports or competition entries or public literature that you may share with us.
- Take or using photos or videos of children who are inappropriately clothed or in sexually provocative positions

Avoid:

- Language and images that could degrade, victimise or shame children
- Manipulating or sensationalising images or text
- Making generalisations which do not accurately reflect the nature of the situation
- Discrimination of any kind
- Taking pictures out of context (e.g. pictures should be accompanied by an explanatory caption where possible).

Remember:

Always ask permission from the children themselves before taking photographs or moving images except under exceptional circumstances, based on the children's best interests, where this might not be possible or desirable

By accepting our terms and conditions and entering into the School Enterprise Challenge you accept our Child Protection Summary and have followed all of the above recommendations. You also allow us to use any photographs or videos that you have shared with us in our own publications and social media and you confirm that you have consent from the children featured in those photographs/videos and their parents/guardian/the NGO responsible for them (if required by local law) to use those photographs or videos.