

# SAVE THE CHILDREN'S COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN



We recognize that the abuse and exploitation of children happens in all countries and cultures across the world. All child abuse involves the violation of children's rights.

Save the Children believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to work in a way that promotes the welfare of children and protects them from harm. We have a zero tolerance approach to any harm to or exploitation of a child by any of our staff, representatives or partners.

We do all that we can to ensure that the experience of children (and their families) of Save the Children is one that is free from any form of abuse or exploitation.

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## Save the Children:

- listens to and takes seriously any concerns raised by, and the views and wishes of, children
- ensures our staff are fully aware of their responsibilities in recognising and reporting any concerns through regular training and development opportunities
- takes positive steps to ensure the protection of children including working in partnership with parents/carers and/or other professionals
- will work effectively with other agencies through sharing information and co-operating with any subsequent investigation

We have a responsibility to ensure the protection and safety of children. Recruitment to all jobs in Save the Children Canada includes Vulnerable Sector Screening, a self-declaration of providing true and accurate information and the collection of employment references. All newly hired employees are subject to probationary periods.

We expect those representing Save the Children to adhere to our Code of Conduct, both in their private and professional lives. We expect the highest standards of behaviour from our staff. Our Child Safeguarding Policy outlines a clear set of behaviours which we adopt when dealing with children.

Keeping children safe is our top priority in everything we do and whenever concerns are raised about our work or representatives, we investigate them honestly, fairly and robustly with the best interests of children as our absolute priority.

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