



Child Safety Policy

Sponsors and Visitors

First Published: September 2011

Rainbows4Children Child Safety Policy Introduction

The safeguarding of children and young people is of paramount importance.

The aim of Rainbows4Children is to ensure that every child, supported by our organisation, and whatever their background or circumstances:

- Is healthy
- Stays safe
- Enjoys their education and achieves high standards
- Makes a positive contribution to their community
- Achieves economic well-being

This guidance document has been compiled with the help of the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) and SAFEchild, both of which are highly respected and well-established charities specialising in the welfare of children. Rainbows4Children acknowledges and thanks them for their help and advice.

Schools and colleges should:

- create and maintain a safe learning environment for children and young people
- identify where there are child welfare concerns and take action to address them, in partnership with other organisations where appropriate
- contribute through the curriculum, by developing children's understanding including understanding of their right to protection from abuse, awareness and resilience

All children, whatever their religious or cultural background, must receive the same care and safeguards with respect to abuse and neglect

Where there are concerns about the welfare of a child with disabilities, they should be acted upon in the same way as with any other child.



Policies and procedures for school and family visits (sponsorship)

Many children at the Nicolas School are sponsored by supporters of Rainbows4Children from overseas. From time to time these sponsors may wish to visit the Nicolas School and visit their sponsored child and their families. The following rules have been defined for the protection of the interests of the sponsored child and all children at the Nicolas School and applies to all children up to the age of 18.

- Sponsors wishing to visit the child and/or their families must be accompanied by a member of the school management team, preferably the student welfare director
- Written notice of an intended visit (by e-mail) should be sent to the school with a copy to Rainbows4Children at least 10 working days before the intended visit
- The nature and purpose of the visit should be disclosed in this message
- Gifts may be given to the child but no individual should receive gifts of more than USD20 per year in value (or equivalent in local currency)

Policies and procedures for correspondence with school students (sponsorship)

Many children at the Nicolas school are sponsored by supporters of Rainbows4Children from overseas. From time to time these sponsors may wish to correspond with their sponsored student by e-mail or by letter or send gifts. The following rules have been defined for the protection of the interests of the sponsored child and all children at the Nicolas School.

- No sponsor may correspond directly with their child, but should send their correspondence through Rainbows4Children.
- Likewise correspondence from the students to their sponsor will be handled by Rainbows4Children and the Student Welfare Director, before sending onwards to the sponsor.
- Gifts may be given to the child but no individual should receive gifts of more than USD20 per year in value (or equivalent in local currency)
- When e-mails are eventually exchanged they should be sent to and from the Rainbows4Children e-mail address, and correspondence, from student to sponsor and sponsor to student, will be checked and monitored by Rainbows4Children before forwarding to a member of the Nicolas school staff.
- Some sponsored students may experience significant health, financial or other hardship. Rainbows4Children has set up a special fund for such cases. Assessment of need will be carried out by the Nicolas School in cooperation with the Tigray Disabled Veterans Association (TDVA). Sponsors wishing to help such cases may make a donation to the Rainbows4Children Special Cases Fund. This procedure ensures that all cases are evaluated fully and treated fairly.



Photography & Filming Guidance

Photography is really important to record the successes and achievements of children & young people in their activities. However, it is vital to remember that photography can be misused and distributed inappropriately including on the Internet.

It is therefore important to be clear about:

- explaining to parents, carers and visiting sponsors why caution is necessary
- the purpose of photographs e.g. parent's own record, fund-raising, publicity etc.
- the content required when using a professional photographer
- informing both the Head of the Nicolas school and Rainbows4children and seeking their consent for any publication or media use. Where appropriate the head of school will in turn seek parent's permission for publication of photographs
- no names of children will be published in public media such as the Internet or newspapers. If names are used when writing case studies they should not be the real names of the child / children involved and the article should state this.
- taking photographs openly and away from changing areas
- the suitability of clothing
- any club/group photos being taken only during the activity or on the premises
- all those taking photos signing the registration form which is maintained by the Nicolas School
- the above guidance applies to any photographic and filming equipment including digital cameras, video cameras, camera phones.

Policy Aim

We promote the highest standard of safeguarding practice in all our activities with children, young people, their families and/or carers. We will adhere rigorously to this policy in all aspects of our work when anyone in our organisation is accessing any form of digital or electronic communication, including the internet, mobile phones, games, photography, videos.



Forms

Rainbows4Children Child Safety Policy for Sponsors & Visitors Acknowledgement of Receipt

I have received, understood and agreed with Rainbows4Children Child Safety Policy for Sponsors and Visitors to the Nicolas School.

NAME: PLEASE PRINT	
SIGNED:	
DATE:	