

Website Terms and Conditions

Website Usage Terms

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Child and Youth Protection and Appropriate Conduct Standards

These are the behavioural expectations that Compassion expects regarding the treatment of all children and youth, regardless of their affiliation with programming or status as a participant.

- Demonstrate respect for all children and youth and not engage in behaviours or use language (including in the form of suggestions or advice), that is verbally, emotionally or spiritually abusive, sexually suggestive, degrading, humiliating, belittling, shaming, coercive, harmful or is otherwise culturally inappropriate.
- Recognize that a supporter is accountable for their response to a child or youth's behaviour, even when a child or youth initiates inappropriate behaviour.
- Recognize that it is never appropriate for an adult to engage in a romantic relationship, marriage or sexual/sexually suggestive behaviour (including in-person and digital/virtual interactions) with anyone under age 18, even if it is legal according to local law.
- Never condone or participate in illegal, unsafe, coercive or abusive behaviour of any child or youth, including physical or sexual assault, emotional abuse, in-person or online exploitation, trafficking, harmful traditional practices, and spiritual or ritualistic abuse.
- Never hire or compel a child to engage in any form of work that is mentally, physically, socially, or morally dangerous and harmful to children or youth, or that interferes with their education. Ensure any employment of a child or youth, supports his or her development and complies with all local laws regarding the employment of minors.

Commitments relating to participants, former participants, and their families

These are the behavioural expectations that Compassion expects from supporters regarding the treatment of all participants, former participants, and their families.

- Always uphold the trust and confidence placed in you as a child and youth advocate to protect children and youth and serve their best interests. Conduct yourself in a way that safeguards participants from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Never share or publish personal or private information about a participant, former participant, or their family without the person's permission, unless when done in compliance with required child protection related reporting or as mandated by law. The principle of keeping participant information confidential applies even if a supporter no longer has any affiliation with the participant, child and youth development centre, Compassion International, and/or Compassion Singapore.

- Recognize that in some circumstances, particularly those related to inappropriate physical or digital behaviour, a breach of these Child and Youth Protection and Appropriate Conduct standards may also be a breach of law and therefore subject a sponsor or donor to serious legal consequences.
- Ensure all written and digital communications with participants is healthy and respectful, following all Compassion guidelines about written and digital communication with participants.
- For the best interest of all parties, only communicate with a participant through Compassion’s established communication processes.
- Never visit a participant or their caregiver(s) independent from Compassion or otherwise outside the bounds of what has been arranged on a Compassion trip or visit.

Protection and Safeguarding Commitments when participating in trips, visits or other programmatic engagements:

In addition to the behaviours outlined above, these are the expectations for behaviours in the context of participating in programming, trips, or visits at the child and youth development centre and/or with program participants, regardless of age.

- Always uphold the trust and confidence placed in you as a child and youth advocate to protect children and youth and serve their best interests. Conduct yourself in a way that safeguards participants from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Treat all participants with dignity and respect, regardless of their gender, age, race, religion, social background, culture, special needs or disability. Contribute to creating an environment where children or youth are respected and encouraged to discuss their concerns and rights.
- Only engage in activities and relationships with participants that are in line with biblical principles, and appropriate to their age and developmental abilities.
- Understand that sponsorship and other forms of monetary support may create a dynamic of power and authority that can affect participants and their caregivers. Avoid situations where these dynamics could be abused for personal advantage.
- If made aware of any actual or potential abuse, neglect or exploitation of participants, immediately follow Compassion’s process for raising concerns and respect the privacy of everyone involved.
- Engage in program-related activities with participants only in open or visible places. In the event that an activity needs to take place in an enclosed space, follow the “two adult rule,” and ensure that at least one other approved adult is present.

- Submit to the lawfully permitted background or police checks as requested prior to any real-time (in-person or digital) contact with participants or access to their personal information.
- Seek guidance about what is locally appropriate when taking photos or videos. Always follow Compassion and church dignity standards and will respect the wishes of people captured in the photograph or video.
- Respect that participants' and their communities may have different expectations and cultural values around appearance, language, expressions of affection and other actions and ensure that my behaviour demonstrates that respect. Follow any recommendations provided by Compassion.
- Respect that everyone's personal boundaries and comfort with appropriate physical affection is different. Avoid any kind of physical contact with participants, their families or others unless they are comfortable.
- Do not use any kind of violence, physical discipline or physical punishment with participants or program staff.
- Do not travel alone with a participant except in an emergency where circumstances require immediate movement to protect against serious physical injury or death. If a life-threatening emergency occurs, make all possible efforts to continue implementing child safeguards.
- Comply with the specific obligations and expectations Compassion provides for each specific trip or visit.

Suspension and Termination

Where a sponsor or supporter breaches the Child and Youth Protection and Appropriate Conduct Standards, Compassion may elect to suspend or terminate support.

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