

Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Version Number: | 2 | Approval Date: | April 2026 |
| Policy Review Frequency: | Annually | Next Review Date: | April 2027 |
| Policy Last Updated: | April 2026 | Published on Website: | Yes |
| Approving Board: | Trustees | | |

The Hope Foundation for Street Children (HOPE UK) exists to raise awareness of, and funds to support projects for street connected children and slum dwelling communities in Kolkata, India, which helps them realise their basic human rights.

The programme activities delivered by The Hope Kolkata Foundation and their delivery partners are monitored by The Hope Foundation India and include providing access to education, protection and healthcare in a holistic and sustainable way, making a lasting positive difference in their lives.

We take our responsibility to keep people safe seriously, and continually strive to embed good practice across the organisation and beyond.

HOPE UK understands that safeguarding should ensure the safety and well-being of everyone with whom we work; including children, their families, carers, and other professionals working with our beneficiaries, as well as members of the wider communities we support. This obligation also extends to our own staff, trustees, volunteers and interns, as well as those who work within our partner organisations in Kolkata.

Our approach to safeguarding involves promoting a culture of safety for all and practising this in every aspect of the organisation's day-to-day life. It also involves taking action for, and on behalf of, children and vulnerable adults who are suffering, or are at risk of suffering, significant harm as a result of neglect, abuse or exploitation.

Any safeguarding concern arising from fundraising activity should be reported in line with this policy and, where relevant, our Complaints Policy and Ethical Fundraising Policy.

HOPE UK has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying, harassment, violence, exploitation and abuse, and so we have made the following commitments to keep people safe:

1. Our staff will maintain the highest standards of conduct and practice

Our staff are carefully selected to ensure that they are suitable to carry out their roles. The standards that they are expected to uphold are set out in organisational policies, reinforced through regular training, and endorsed by a positive work culture which openly promotes good safeguarding practice.

2. Responsibilities

Safeguarding responsibilities apply to all HOPE UK activities, including fundraising events, campaigns and supporter engagement. This includes ensuring that fundraising activities do not place supporters, volunteers or beneficiaries at risk of harm, exploitation or undue pressure.

3. Every member of staff and volunteer is required to read and sign this Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

4. We will support our partners and others to build and endorse good practice

Partnership and collaboration is fundamental to our work, and so we often involve other organisations, groups and entities in the delivery of our activities and events. We seek to understand the practice and policy of our partners and to support them where required, to build and strengthen good practice with respect to safeguarding.

5. We will listen to all safeguarding concerns that are reported to us and take appropriate action

HOPE UK has a clear, transparent and accessible Complaints Policy and Procedure, which can be used by anyone to report a concern. When a report is made, our response will be guided by this procedure. We will establish actions that are appropriate to the nature of the case and aligned with our legal obligations. In our handling of such reports, we will respect confidentiality, only involving individuals and entities on a 'need to know' basis. If you wish to raise a safeguarding concern, please contact us at:

Telephone: 07825 683612

Email: info@thehopefoundation.org.uk

Letter: The Hope Foundation for Street Children, 82 Manor Road, Barton Le Clay, Bedford MK45 4NR

6. Monitoring and review

This safeguarding policy and procedures document is reviewed annually or in response to changes in legislation and/or government guidance or significant internal organisational changes.