

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Version 1.1 August 2015

Last reviewed January 2024 – no material changes

Introduction

Education Destination Ltd. is a tour operator specialising in the provision of bespoke, curriculum-relevant school trips.

We assist schools with planning transport and accommodation. We do not provide these services directly.

Whilst **Education Destination staff rarely have direct interaction with visiting students**, it is common for staff members to briefly “meet and greet” groups of visitors upon arrival or at our partner venues, to assist with arrangements and deal with any problems that may arise. **These interactions will always be in the presence of the visiting group’s lead teacher or other adult representative of the school. The school’s representatives remain *in loco parentis* at all times for the students in their charge.**

At no point is it expected that Education Destination staff will have unsupervised direct contact with visiting students. However, in case this situation does arise in unexpected circumstances, we felt it prudent to develop this policy document to help ensure the protection of students utilising our services.



**Education
Destination**



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t: 01983 216220



Unit 1 Pritchett's Way
Rookley, Isle of Wight PO38 3LT

Registered in England & Wales,
company number 09028634

VAT registration no. 201 8378 28



Policy Statement and Principles

The designated director for child protection is Jon Carter, Managing Director at Education Destination Ltd.

Education Destination will:

- ensure the designated director has undertaken relevant safeguarding training at least every two years;
- recognise the importance of the role of the designated director and ensure s/he has the time and training to undertake her/his duties;
- ensure that the designated director is responsible for coordinating action where it is suspected that a child is in need, has been harmed, or is at risk of significant harm;
- ensure the designated staff members for safeguarding are familiar with DfES guidance;
- ensure all staff are aware of the staff code of conduct and allegations against staff policy;
- ensure all staff likely to come into unsupervised contact with students or vulnerable adults have been vetted through the DBS system.

The Company's responsibility to safeguard the welfare of children is of paramount importance. Policies will be reviewed at least annually unless an incident or new legislation or guidance suggests the need for an interim review.

If, at any point, it is identified that there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child a referral will be made to Children's Social Care immediately. Any Company director can make a referral should the designated director be unavailable.

All staff members will maintain an attitude of '*It could happen here*' where safeguarding is concerned. When concerned about the welfare of a child, staff members should always act in the interests of the child.



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Child Protection Statement

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all visiting students. We endeavour to facilitate the provision of a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued.

Policy Principles:

- Welfare of the child is paramount;
- All children, regardless of age, gender, ability, culture, race, language, religion or sexual identity, have equal rights to protection;
- All staff have an equal responsibility to act on any suspicion or disclosure that may suggest a child is at risk of harm during their visit;
- Education Destination staff who are concerned for a student's health, welfare or safety are responsible only for reporting the concern(s), not investigating or validating them.

Policy Aims:

- To provide all staff with the necessary information to enable them to meet their safeguarding and child protection responsibilities
- To ensure consistent good practice;
- To demonstrate the Company's commitment with regard to safeguarding and child protection to students, group leaders and supervisors, parents and other partners.

Staff Code of Conduct / Best Practice

To meet our responsibilities towards students' wellbeing, Education Destination staff will demonstrate good practice which forms a code of conduct, including:

- treating all students with respect
- setting a good example by conducting themselves appropriately at all times when in the vicinity of students
- involving students in decisions that affect them
- encouraging positive and safe behavior amongst students
- protecting the personal details of students
- asking permission before initiating any form of physical contact with students, for example assisting with physical activities, administering first aid etc.



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Photography and Images

Education Destination staff members wishing to take photographs or videos of visiting students for publicity purposes are only permitted to do so with the express written permission of the group's lead teacher, who in turn is expected to have received express permission of the relevant parents/guardians.

Online Safety

Education Destination staff members are not permitted to share students' personal details online. Imagery that is used for promotional purposes in accordance with our policy on Photography will be used in an anonymous fashion unless expressly cleared with the subject involved and their parent/guardian.

All other aspects of Child Protection remain the responsibility of those acting *in loco parentis* during group visits.



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