

Child Protection Policy

The Kid Lit Foundation
Nigeria

1. Policy Statement

The Kid Lit Foundation (KLF) is committed to promoting the safety, dignity, and well-being of all children we engage with through our literacy, storytelling, and creative programmes. We believe every child has the right to be protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and harm. Our policy ensures a safe environment where children can learn, grow, and express themselves.

2. Scope of Policy

This policy applies to:

- All staff, volunteers, board members, interns, contractors, and partners of KLF
- All programmes, events, workshops, and digital interactions conducted by or on behalf of KLF
- All interactions with children (defined as any person under the age of 18)

3. Legal Framework

This policy aligns with:

- The Child Rights Act of Nigeria (2003)
- The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (1999)
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- Relevant state-level child protection laws (e.g. Lagos State Child Rights Law 2007)

4. Principles

We commit to the following guiding principles:

- Best interest of the child
- Zero tolerance for abuse
- Participation and respect for children's voices

- Prevention-first approach
- Confidentiality in handling child-related concerns

5. Definitions of Abuse

Abuse includes:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Exploitation

6. Code of Conduct

All KLF representatives must:

- Treat children with respect and kindness
- Ensure appropriate, culturally sensitive behaviour
- Avoid being alone with a child
- Never engage in inappropriate conduct
- Report concerns immediately
- Obtain consent before photographing or filming children

7. Reporting and Response Procedures

Concerns should be reported to the designated Child Protection Focal Person (CPFP). Reports can be verbal or written and may be anonymous. All reports will be handled confidentially, with referral to authorities where appropriate.

8. Child Protection Focal Person (CPFP)

The CPFP is responsible for:

- Receiving and documenting reports
- Coordinating responses

- Liaising with external agencies
- Conducting training

9. Recruitment and Training

- Background checks for staff and volunteers
- Mandatory safeguarding training
- Inclusion of protection clauses in contracts and MoUs

10. Photography and Media Use

- Consent required before capturing or sharing images
- Respectful, non-identifiable presentation of children
- No sharing of personal identifiers without explicit permission

11. Monitoring and Review

The policy will be reviewed annually or after significant incidents. Updates will be approved by the board and communicated accordingly.

12. Declaration

All staff, volunteers, and associates are required to sign a declaration confirming understanding and compliance with this policy.