



Supporting the
Leicester-Gondar Link (LGL)

Safeguarding Policy

HALE is a charity which facilitates the organisation and implementation of medical projects in Ethiopia. All its projects are undertaken in partnership with a recognised local agency in Ethiopia, for example, the Gondar University.

This policy applies to the whole of LGL and HALE, trustees, executive and volunteers. This policy is intended to ensure that procedures are in place to report, prevent and deal with abuse.

HALE is committed to ensuring that children and vulnerable people are protected from all forms of harm and abuse, and able to live a life with dignity, respect and security. Those who volunteer with HALE must ensure that their behaviour promotes and encourages everyone to live free from:-

- Physical, sexual and emotional harm and abuse
- Exploitation and abuse (physical, sexual and psychological)
- Neglect
- Discrimination
- Human Trafficking

HALE does not tolerate abuse of any kind. HALE expects all those within the scope of this policy to be committed to the rights of others to be protected from abuse. HALE will promote understanding of protection needs and the responsibility to report and respond to concerns of abuse. HALE will take positive action to prevent potential abusers becoming involved with HALE and take stringent measures if abuse is committed or suspected.

HALE will conduct appropriate background checks in the UK, for example, ensure there is a current enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate and use its reasonable endeavours to ensure relevant local procedures are in place for Ethiopian and other non UK nationals involved in its projects. This policy will be circulated to all those involved with HALE who will be required to agree proactively to implement the policy and sign a copy to indicate their agreement to abide by its terms.

HALE will:-

- Recognise and manage risks and situations appropriately (Appendix A attached)
- Regularly review procedures appropriate to the local context
- Provide appropriate training and support
- Retain relevant records

The Safeguarding Lead for HALE is currently Dr Heather Dipple.

Signed:

Dated: 30/07/2018 (To be reviewed annually)

Registered Charity Number: 1122773

Registered Address: 8a Long Lane, Billesdon, Leicestershire. LE7 9AL.

APPENDIX A

How to report a safeguarding incident

An allegation of abuse of a child or vulnerable adult should be taken seriously at all times. It is essential that all parties maintain confidentiality and therefore sharing of information, which could identify a child or an alleged perpetrator should be purely on a 'need to know' basis. Unless abuse has actually been proved to have occurred one must always refer to 'alleged abuse'. Names and identities are not to be disclosed outside the group designated as 'need to know'.

If you suspect abuse, or someone discloses allegations to you, you should:

- Listen to the person, allow them to say what they feel they want to say, but don't ask leading questions.
- Don't promise to keep it a secret. You may feel that you need to pass it on to someone in charge as you are concerned for their welfare.
- As soon as is possible, write down everything you can remember that the person said, as well as where and when the conversation took place. Include date and time of conversation(s) and any incident(s) disclosed. Reports should be factual and as accurate as possible. Opinions and presumptions should be avoided but, where it is felt relevant or important to include these, they should be clearly indicated as such.
- In the first instance, the only people who 'need to know' are the head of the institute concerned on site, who will follow local procedures in Ethiopia, and to the HALE Safeguarding Lead.
- Safeguarding issues will be reviewed by the HALE Trustees Board.