

# EVERY CHILD MATTERS EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD

## HOW WE KEEP YOU SAFE

### Introducing the Child Protection Policy

The British Council believes that you are important, wherever you live, and we take your safety and happiness very seriously. We have a Child Protection Policy describing the steps we will take to keep you safe, in every country we work. This version of the Policy is for you.

### How we will work with you

- We will do what is best for you.
- We will involve you in making decisions.
- We will treat all children equally.
- We will respect and value your culture.
- We will work with other people who can help you.
- We will take keeping you safe seriously.
- We will make sure our policy keeps all children safe.

### What we will do when you ask for help

There may still be times when you need help. You might want to ask for our help because you are being hurt by a member of our staff or at home, or in school or in your community. Whatever you tell us we will listen and take your worries seriously.

### What to do if you want to complain...

If you want to make a complaint under the Child Protection Policy, you should speak to a member of our staff that you trust or to the Country Child Protection Focal Point. If you do not want to make the complaint by yourself you can ask a member of your family or a friend to help you.

Children who tell us about their concerns will not get in trouble even if they report a staff member for bad behaviour.

### Did you know that...?

Under an important international agreement, called the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child** most Governments have agreed that children have a right to protection, and to have their welfare promoted. This means that Governments have a responsibility to keep you safe.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child says that **“a child is anyone who has not reached their 18th birthday”**

