

Visitor and Media Policy 2014

The purpose of these guidelines is:

- To protect the beneficiaries of One Sky Foundation (children and adults)
- To maintain client confidentiality
- To maintain the best interest of the child / beneficiary at all times
- To prevent any form of exploitation by members of the media or other visitors
- To protect the media representative, visitor and the organization itself.

The One Sky Foundation child protection policy applies to all adults working directly with children. This includes staff, volunteers, trainers and donors (if applicable) that have direct interaction with children.

All Visitors must adhere to section **3.6 of the One Sky Foundation Child Protection policy 2014**, even if they are not working directly with children. This states that:

“One Sky Foundation personnel must not fondle, hold, kiss, hug or touch minors in an inappropriate or culturally insensitive way. Under no circumstance should any physical contact have the appearance of being sexual in any way. To avoid misunderstanding, it is recommended that a child be asked for permission before touching or holding hands if necessary during the course of work.”

In particular, **visitors** should understand that they are strangers to the children, unlike One Sky staff who are familiar to the children and have gradually gained the trust of the children. All One Sky staff are rigorously trained once a year on child protection guidelines that are specific to the challenges faced when working with Children in Thailand and in particular the culturally diverse border area.

One Sky staff educate all children on the importance of personal safety and space. In particular they work hard to raise awareness of the danger from foreign and local pedophiles looking to exploit vulnerable children. The children have a natural tendency to be too trusting of foreigners in particular.

It is important that **ALL VISITORS** acknowledge that they have a role to play in this education process and that they do not inadvertently undo the work of our dedicated social and child protection workers by being over familiar with the children . For example, visitors hugging, carrying and cuddling children can undermine the safety messages we promote to staff and children, as well as being confusing for children. Please understand that as visitors you have little or no understanding of the family background and issues that each individual child has.

Guidelines

1. Interviewing children and adults

Any individual story used should be within the context of describing One Sky Foundation activities in general and should not be the main focus of the article. All participants will receive full explanation of the purpose of the media article from One Sky staff.

- 1.1 Permission must always be obtained from the One Sky Management team prior to any form of interviews taking place.
- 1.2 A One Sky staff member must be present at all times during an interview.
- 1.3 Full permission must be gained from the interviewee. The interviewee must be informed on the background and use of this information before he / she gives consent to participate.
- 1.4 The child must be given control at all times and never be forced to continue if she or she does not wish to.
- 1.5 Interview and gathering of information process must always maintain the best interests of the child / beneficiaries at all times and never cause any form of trauma to interviewee.
- 1.6 Real names will never be used in order to maintain anonymity.
- 1.7 Victims of sexual abuse must never be interviewed for child protection reasons.

2. Photography

- 2.1 Permission must be requested from individual children or adults.
- 2.2 No photos of naked children, or adults or children who appear to be traumatised or in any vulnerable situation(crying, scared, working as prostitutes).
- 2.3 Children or adults will be fully informed on the visit and reason for media presence before giving consent.

3. Community visits with One Sky Foundation

- 3.1 Permission must always be authorized by the One Sky Management team prior to visits and as above, no interviewing of any kind should take place without authorization from the management team.
- 3.2 Children and adults must be fully informed before any filming, photography or questions and give full consent.
- 3.3 No questions relating to HIV, Sexual or physical abuse, drug use or any other issue that may leave individuals feeling violated is allowed.

3.4 A One Sky staff must be present at all times; they have the authority to terminate the visit at any time to protect their clients.

3.5 Visitors must never offer cash or in kind donations direct to families or children.

3.6 One Sky Foundation does not hold responsibility for loss or damage of equipment during field visits.

I accept these terms and agree to abide by One Sky Foundation Media guidelines at all times during my visit.

Name:

Email:

Organisation:

Signature:

Date:

Thank you for your cooperation

