



Repubblica Italiana
CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI" - CATANIA
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CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI" is committed to keeping children safe, that promotes effective actions aimed to ensure children wellbeing and protection, focusing on the prevention of physical and mental abuses and all forms of violence against children.

CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI" recognizes that all his Managers, Employees, Associates and Representatives and those of partner organizations coming into contact with children have a fundamental duty of care towards them. *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* condemns all forms of abuse and violence against children that can be perpetuated outside and inside the organization.

CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI" Child protection Policy is grounded on

- *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* mission, vision and values;
- *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Child protection Policy the UN Child Rights Convention (Art. 19);
- General Comment No. 13 (2011) of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child – the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence;
- Keeping children Safe Coalition Child Protection Standards.

STAKEHOLDERS

- Children involved in any *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* directly implemented as well as supported Action, in Italy, in Europe and in Developing Countries;
- *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Managers, Employees, Associates and Representatives in *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* facilities, programmes, Italian and Country offices;
- Partner organizations' staff, associates and representatives;
- Sponsors, Donors, and visitors;
- Biological families and Foster families of children attending *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* directly implemented as well as supported Actions;
- Teachers involved in *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* programmes;
- External contractors and consultants who provide service



DEFINITIONS UNDER THE CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Children

In line with the UNCRC, for the purposes of the present Policy, a child means every human being below the age of eighteen years. (UNCRC Article 1).

Abuse

In line with WHO definitions, child abuse or maltreatment constitutes all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power.

Physical abuse is defined as those acts that cause actual physical harm or have the potential for harm. *Sexual abuse* is defined as those acts where a perpetrator uses a child for sexual gratification. *Emotional abuse* includes the failure of a caregiver to provide an appropriate and supportive environment, and includes acts that have an adverse effect on the emotional health and development of a child. Such acts include restricting a child's movements, denigration, ridicule, threats and intimidation, discrimination, rejection and other non-physical forms of hostile treatment.

Neglect

Neglect refers to the failure of a caregiver to provide for the development of the child in one or more of the following areas: health, education, emotional development, nutrition, shelter and safe living conditions.

PRINCIPLES

This policy is set up by a set of principles that are derived from the UNCRC and from the Comment No. 13 (2011) of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, and includes:

- No violence against children is justifiable; all violence against children is preventable;
- A child rights-based approach to child caregiving and protection requires a paradigm shift towards respecting and promoting the human dignity and the physical and psychological integrity of children as rights-bearing individuals rather than perceiving them primarily as "victims";
- The concept of dignity requires that every child is recognized, respected and protected as a rights holder and as a unique and valuable human being with an individual personality, distinct needs, interests and privacy;
- Children's rights to be heard and to have their views given due weight must be respected systematically in all decision making processes, and their empowerment and participation should be central to child caregiving and protection strategies and programmes;
- The right of children to have their best interests be a primary consideration in all matters involving or affecting them must be respected, especially when they are victims of violence, as well as in all measures of prevention.

SCOPE

The Child Protection Policy applies to all *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Managers, Employees, Associates and Representatives who must comply with its



requirements. In addition, *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Child protection policy applies to all *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* partner organizations' staff and representative, so to ensure that all children involved in Actions directly implemented or supported by *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* are kept safe from all forms of abuse and violence.

Where required by law or local practices, *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Country Offices may enhance the standards as set out in this policy.

OBJECTIVES

To make all *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Managers, Employees, Associates and Representatives and Partner organizations' staff and representative aware about all aspects of child protection and all the procedure about the prevention, disclosure, reporting and responding of abuses.

To ensure that all *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Managers, Employees, Associates and Representatives and Partner organizations' staff and representative are well supported in meeting their Child protection responsibilities and engage positively with children and communities.

To avoid and prevent cases of abuse, violence and neglect from happen in the context of any Actions directly implemented or supported by *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"*, in Italy and in developing countries, and Shelter Homes.

To guarantee that safe environments for children are created in all aspects of *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* work whether fundraising or program implementation, where children are respected, protected and empowered as their capacities evolve

To contribute to generate awareness in children about their rights and the role they pay in the prevention, identification, disclosure and management of abuses.

To guarantee that fair, secure and transparent reporting channels are put in place in all types of programmes that fulfill the right of stakeholders to be heard.

IMPLICATION FOR CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"

CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI" staff, associates and representatives, and all partner organizations' staff, associates and representatives are bound to the respect of *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Child Protection Policy.

All *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Regional and Country Directors must ensure that each FADV Country office has in place local procedures that are consistent with *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Child Protection Policy. Local procedures have to be developed with the assistance of local advisers in accordance with local law. It should also be ensured that this policy and local procedures are made available in local languages.

By respecting *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* Child protection policy, *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* and all partner organizations working with *CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"* commit themselves to:



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote the open and free discussion about all issues related to child protection and keeping children safe from abuse and violence - Provide adequate information to its staff, associates and representatives about <i>CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"</i> Child Protection Policy - Adopt written guidelines for appropriate and inappropriate behavior of adults towards children and of children toward other children - Establish clear roles and responsibilities regarding the monitoring of the respect and the enforcement of <i>CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"</i> Child Protection Policy - Ensure that children are informed about their rights to be heard and to grow up free from all forms of physical and psychological violence 	Awareness generation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guarantee high professional standards to be applied during the selection of staff, associates and partner organizations - Provide adequate training to staff, associate and representative on child protection and to include child protection as regular topic in all training programmes - Foreseen specific supervision mechanisms for staff, associates and representatives directly working with children as a space for open and free discussion about Child protection concerns coming from any <i>CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"</i> directly implemented or supported Action - Promote a safe, free and open environment where children are encouraged to discuss their concerns and rights and to express their point of view - Put in place a system of partnership with families and communities that are appropriate to support the CPP - Never expose children to, or place them at risk of, harm. This while carrying out activities directly with children as well as when taking images/pictures or generating stories of children 	Prevention
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide to all staff, associates and representatives clear procedures for reporting any child abuse and child protection concerns - Ensure child-friendly reporting mechanisms, so that children can report in confidence and safety about experienced maltreatment, abuse and violence - Guarantee that any child abuse/child protection concern is treated and investigated keeping the highest degree of confidence - Guarantee that the denouncer, potential offender and victim, all are kept safe and are provided with needed psycho-social support 	Reporting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigate any concern about the conduct of <i>CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"</i> staff, associates and representatives – as well as partner organizations’ staff, associates and representatives –according to applicable local office procedures and F <i>CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"</i> Child Protection Policy; investigation may result in disciplinary action for <i>CONVITTO NAZIONALE "M. CUTELLI"</i> staff, associates and representatives and in the immediate termination of Partnership Agreement in case of partner organizations’ staff, associates and representatives - Foresee all needed measures for ensuring child protection and security in case of proven child abuse and neglect and report to concerned Authorities - Periodically review the Policy, according to the feedback and experience 	Responding



CHILD PROTECTION CODE OF CONDUCT

I do

Treat all children and young people with respect regardless of race, colour, sex, language, disability, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, birth or other status;

Encourage children, young people, parents, employees and volunteers to speak up about issues that affect them;

Refrain from using corporal punishment on children;

Immediately report concerns or allegations of child abuse;

Comply with local, national and international child protection laws;

Advise my supervisor/manager of my involvement in any situation where my actions could be misinterpreted;

Advise my supervisor/manager if I am involved in any situation which would be likely to bring the organisation into disrepute.

I do not

Use inappropriate language – whether of an offensive, discriminatory, demeaning, abusive or sexual nature – when speaking with or whilst in the presence of a child or young person;

Engage in behaviour to shame, humiliate, belittle or degrade a child or young person, or otherwise emotionally abuse a child or young person;

Act in a sexually provocative manner or engage children in any form of sexual activity, including paying for sexual services;

Hold, kiss, cuddle or touch a child in an inappropriate, unnecessary or culturally insensitive way;

Condone or participate in, behaviour with children which is illegal, unsafe or abusive;

Discriminate against or in favour of particular children to the exclusion of others;

Hire children for domestic or any other labour which is inappropriate for their age or development, interferes with their education or play, or places them at risk of injury;

Access or create sexually abusive images of children;

Use computers, mobile phones, video or digital cameras or any other technology for the purpose of exploiting or harassing children;

Use of children images

At a minimum, obtain and document verbal consent from children and/or their parent or guardian and explain how the photograph or film will be used. Written consent should be obtained, where possible.

Ensure photographs, films, videos and DVDs present children in a dignified and respectful manner and not in a vulnerable or submissive manner. Children should be adequately clothed and not in poses that could be perceived as sexually suggestive.



Ensure images are honest representations of the situations and the facts.

Ensure the identities of children and young people in photographic and electronic images are not disclosed.

We do not actively ask children to do or say anything that might make them feel displayed as ‘objects of pity’ (e.g. to speak about their past or ask for donations).

We handle children’s names carefully, especially in connection with sensitive information about the same children (e.g. the family background, their medical condition, disability or negative behavior).