



Partners in Aid

## Child Sponsorship Policy

### Background

Partners In Aid recognises child sponsorship as one means of achieving its goals and the social interests of its donors. Child sponsorship provides donors and opportunity to make a regular contribution to the education of a child in India, and to receive regular reports on that child's educational progress; it also provides support to children and their families which ensures that a child attends school up to Year 10 and receives funds to assist with the costs of education.

Child sponsorship assists in promoting the value of education to children as a means of improving their standard of living.

Partners in Aid is committed to the safety and well being of all children. We support the rights of children and will act without hesitation to ensure a child safe environment is maintained. We are committed to the protection of children from harm, abuse and exploitation. These rights and our responsibilities are documented within our Child Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct.

Children have a right to survival, development, protection and participation as stated in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. (UNCRC). We will uphold these rights.

Partners in Aid takes its duty of care seriously and will aim at all times to provide the safest possible management of child sponsorship

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the principles and actions involved in the initiation, child selection, sponsor reporting, communication, funding, monitoring and evaluation of PIA Child Sponsorship Programmes. It should be read in conjunction with the PIA Child Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct.

### Scope

This policy applies to Child Sponsorship Programmes supported by Partners in Aid in partnership with SEDS and ABWU in India.

## Procedures

### Initiation

1. Child sponsorship is an undertaking that must take into account the interests of the children and their families as the primary priority.
2. The capacity of both Partners In Aid and the Partner Organisation to successfully administer the program must be considered.
3. Partners In Aid and the Partner Organisation will work together to develop a proposal that describes the scope, objectives, method of implementation, funding arrangements monitoring and evaluation criteria, for the project.

### Selection of Children

1. It is the responsibility of the Partner Organisation to identify the children for sponsorship
2. It is the responsibility of Partners in Aid to liaise with the Partner Organisation to ensure that the selection of the children is in accordance with our guiding principles.
3. Each child selected for sponsorship should have a case profile established which is made available to the responsible Board Member of Partners in Aid, who will ensure the confidentiality of the information in the profile.

### Reporting to Sponsors

1. Each year the Partner Organisation should provide adequate information to Partners in Aid to keep the donor informed about their sponsored child

### Communication between Sponsors and Children

1. Communication between sponsors and children should only occur via the Partners in Aid and/or Partner Organisation intermediaries.

### Privacy Issues

Privacy issues are dealt with in our Privacy Policy

### Conclusion of Sponsorship

Child sponsorship concludes when

1. when the child completes their schooling, or
2. if the child's family does not meet conditions of the Partner regarding educational and health arrangements

### Funding Arrangements

1. Funding will be provided in biannual instalments
2. Funds may be used by the Partner Organisation directly to pay for school and educational costs (including uniforms, books & equipment), health care services, transport costs of children to attend agreed activities, and administration costs at an agreed level
2. The provision of ongoing funding is dependent on satisfactory reporting being received for consideration of the Board of Partners In Aid.
3. Funding may only be transferred to the Partner Organisation by electronic transfer to an agreed bank account.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

1. Monitoring of the programme will be conducted in conjunction with the partner organisation by the Board director responsible for the programme on an annual basis.
2. A review of the effectiveness of the overall programme will be conducted by two members of the Board or nominated persons other than the director immediately responsible for the programme
3. During the monitoring and review the voices of all stakeholders, including the children where possible, will be considered.

### **Review**

This policy will be reviewed after 2 years.

### **References**

Partners in Aid Child Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct.