

POLICY STATEMENT

Viva believes that child protection is both an individual and a corporate responsibility.

Viva recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and protecting them from abuse. We believe that it is never acceptable for a child to experience abuse of any kind.

As part of its vision and mission, Viva recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and is committed to protect them from harm and abuse. Viva believes that it is never acceptable for a child to experience abuse of any kind and is committed to communicating this message through the organisation and through the Christian community of its networked constituents.

We believe that

1. Child safeguarding is both an individual and corporate responsibility
2. All children and young people have equal rights to protection from abuse and exploitation and inequalities should be challenged.
3. All children and young people should be encouraged to fulfil their potential
4. The welfare of children and young people is paramount.
5. Everyone must take precautions and responsibility to help create a safe place for children and support their care and protection. This begins with everyone being well informed and aware of child protection issues
6. Openness must be encouraged about concerns relating to child protection matters
7. Viva has a duty of care to children with whom we work and with whom our representatives work
8. Viva has a responsibility to ensure that all networking initiatives meet standards of protection for the children in their care.

Viva's Child Safeguarding Policy sets out:

1. Viva principles for safeguarding children, the Viva staff and Viva as an organisation.

Viva believes that child safeguarding is both an individual and a corporate responsibility.

2. Viva expectations in terms of behaviour and good practice for Viva Staff when working with children and young people.

Viva believes that everyone must take precautions and responsibility to help create a safe place for children and their protection. This begins with everyone being well informed and aware of child protection issues.

3. Viva's guidelines for responding appropriately if abuse of a child is alleged, disclosed, discovered or suspected.

Viva encourages openness about concerns relating to child protection matters.

Viva is involved in a continuous process of developing and updating the Child Safeguarding Policy and is committed to taking all practical steps in developing child protection procedures and practices.