



# Safeguarding Policy for Children

## *Introduction*

*Tambu Ayis Support Service (TASS) is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of children participating in our programs and activities. This Safeguarding Policy outlines the principles and procedures that TASS follows to protect children from harm, abuse, or exploitation, in accordance with the Children Act 1989. The purpose of this policy is to provide a comprehensive framework for preventing, identifying, and responding to safeguarding concerns involving children.*

## Definitions

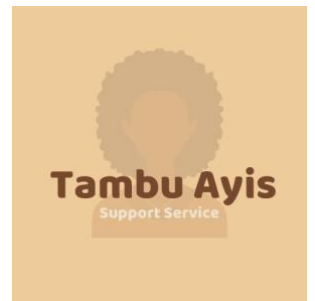
1. Child: Any person under the age of 18.
2. Safeguarding: The measures taken to protect the health, well-being, and rights of individuals, preventing abuse, harm, or exploitation.
3. Abuse: Any form of physical, emotional, sexual, or neglectful behaviour that causes harm or distress to a child.

## Principles

1. Best Interest of the Child: TASS prioritises the best interests of the child, ensuring their safety, well-being, and protection from harm.
2. Empowerment: TASS promotes an empowering environment where children are listened to, respected, and involved in decisions that affect them, considering their evolving capacities.
3. Prevention: TASS takes proactive measures to prevent abuse or harm by providing training, awareness, and clear guidelines to staff and volunteers.
4. Legislative Compliance: TASS adheres to the Children Act 1989, ensuring that safeguarding practices align with legal requirements.
5. Identification and Reporting: TASS encourages the prompt identification and reporting of any safeguarding concerns or incidents involving children.

## Guidelines

1. Staff and Volunteer Training: All staff and volunteers undergo training on safeguarding children, including the principles of the Children Act 1989.



2. Risk Assessment: TASS conducts regular risk assessments to identify potential safeguarding risks within its programs and activities, considering factors outlined in the Children Act 1989.

3. Clear Reporting Procedures: TASS has clear and accessible reporting procedures for staff and volunteers to report safeguarding concerns. Reports are treated confidentially and investigated promptly, in line with legislative requirements.

4. Supportive Environment: TASS promotes a culture of openness and support, encouraging children to voice concerns and seek help without fear of reprisal.

5. Collaboration with Authorities: TASS collaborates with relevant authorities, such as local safeguarding boards and child protection agencies, to address safeguarding concerns effectively, respecting the frameworks outlined in the Children Act 1989.

#### Responding to Concerns

1. Immediate Action: Any immediate risk to a child's safety prompts immediate action to ensure their protection, considering the principles of the Children Act 1989.

2. Investigation: TASS conducts thorough and impartial investigations into safeguarding concerns, involving relevant authorities when necessary, adhering to the principles of the Children Act 1989.

3. Support for the Child: TASS provides support to children affected by safeguarding concerns, offering access to counselling, advocacy, or other services, with consideration to the principles of the Children Act 1989.

4. Record Keeping: TASS maintains accurate records of safeguarding concerns, actions taken, and outcomes, ensuring compliance with legal requirements outlined in the Children Act 1989.

#### Review and Amendments

This Safeguarding Policy is subject to periodic review to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with legislative updates. Amendments may be made based on changes in legal requirements, best practices, or organisational structure.

Adopted on:	October 2023
Review on:	October 2024