



TeenStreet UK Safeguarding Policy

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TeenStreet UK

TeenStreet UK is a ministry of OM in the UK. We work face-to-face with young people from all over the UK and in some cases from other countries as well. We are also involved in online training and building partnerships with youth workers and churches across the UK as part of the wider work with OM in the UK. This safeguarding policy refers to any work undertaken in the name of TeenStreet UK, in-person or online.

Purpose

This policy is in addition to the main OM in the UK Safeguarding policy. It will be reviewed every year alongside the main policy. All aspects of the main OM in the UK policy apply for all work under the banner of TeenStreet UK.

All definitions and terminology laid out in the main OM in the UK Safeguarding policy are adopted for this additional policy.

All young people under the age of eighteen are regarded as children for the purposes of this policy. The fact that a child has reached sixteen years of age, is living independently, is in further education, is a member of the Armed Forces or is in hospital, prison or a young offender's institution does not change their status.

Safeguarding

We [TeenStreet UK] recognise the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children, young people, and adults.

We acknowledge that children, young people, and adults can be the victims of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, and neglect, among other forms.

We accept the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant of Human Rights, which states that everyone is entitled to "all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status."

We also concur with the Convention on the Rights of the Child which states that children should be able to develop their full potential, free from hunger and want, neglect and abuse. They have a right to be protected from "all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s), or any other person who has care of the child."

We have therefore adopted the procedures set out in this safeguarding policy in accordance with statutory guidance. We are committed to build constructive links with statutory and voluntary agencies involved in safeguarding.

TeenStreet UK undertakes to:

- endorse and follow all national, local and UK's OM safeguarding legislation and procedures, in addition to the international conventions outlined above.
- provide on-going safeguarding training for OM workers which is relevant to their role at TeenStreet UK events
- ensure that all events meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and all other relevant legislation, and that it is welcoming and inclusive.
- support the Safeguarding Coordinators in their work, and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children and adults with care and support needs.

Recruitment

TeenStreet UK adheres to the guidelines laid out in the OM in the UK Safeguarding policy.

Two references will be taken for each adult volunteer applying to work with TeenStreet UK, and an enhanced DBS check must be completed before volunteers is accepted onto the Service Team. Further details of DBS checking procedure is laid out in the main OM in the UK safeguarding policy.

Every applicant must agree to abide by the Community Lifestyle Statement (see appendix I).

If a person is found not to be appropriate to work with vulnerable people, they will not be accepted onto the Service Team for a TeenStreet event.

Everyone who works with TeenStreet, in whatever capacity, will receive safeguarding training as part of their induction. This will include an explanation of TeenStreet UK's safeguarding policy, including the procedures to report any safeguarding concern.

Radicalisation

Children can be exposed to different views and receive information from various sources. Some of these views may be considered radical or extreme. Radicalisation is the process through which a person comes to support or be involved in extremist ideologies. It can result in a person becoming drawn into terrorism and is in itself a form of harm. Everyone involved in TeenStreet UK has a responsibility to protect children from harm. This includes becoming radicalised and/or being exposed to extreme views. It happens gradually so children and young people who are affected may not realise what it is that they are being drawn into.

The process of radicalisation may involve:

- being groomed online or in person
- exploitation, including sexual exploitation
- psychological manipulation
- exposure to violent material and other inappropriate information
- the risk of physical harm or death through extremist acts.

Should an OM worker have any information or suspicion about radicalisation, they should follow TeenStreet UK and OM in the UK's procedure for acting on a safeguarding concern. If there is an immediate risk of harm, the OM worker must inform the Safeguarding Lead who will call 999 straight away.

Event Planning

Risk assessments for each event and all activities will be conducted in accordance with the main OM in the UK safeguarding policy.

When working with third parties such as venues or activity providers, safeguarding policies will be obtained ahead of time from the organisations, and respective responsibilities agreed before any contract is in place, including adequate insurance coverage which must at a minimum comply with OM in the UK's standards.

A worker should not be on their own with a child or young person in a location where they cannot be seen by other people. This may mean working in rooms with the doors left open. If counselling a child or young person and privacy and confidentiality are necessary, ensure that the safeguarding lead and the child's youth leader knows where the worker is and with whom. The child or young person must also be told where other adults are. Where counselling is taking place, there will be an agreement of mutual consent between the counsellor and the child or young person. It is within the child or young person's control to withdraw from the session at any time they may choose.

The following will be adhered to during over-night stays:

- Separate washing and toilet facilities are provided for male and female, dormitories are single-gender and there is no sharing of sleeping bags or beds.
- An OM worker will never share a room with children or young people, apart from family members where they are the only people present in the room.
- Sleeping arrangements will be decided based on age. For example, 12-year-olds will not be placed in rooms with 17-year-olds. The only exception will be due to youth groups coming together, where older and younger youth may share a room.

Reporting Vulnerable Person Safety Concerns

Any OM worker must follow the procedures outlined in the main OM in the UK safeguarding policy regarding reporting an incident.

At no point should an OM worker contact the parents of a vulnerable person regarding a concern or incident without the express permission of the TeenStreet UK Safeguarding Lead.

Should there be a conflict of interest with the TeenStreet UK Safeguarding Lead, The OM in the UK Safeguarding Co-ordinator will be contacted immediately.

Site-specific concerns

TeenStreet UK 2025 is being held at Capernwray Hall. TeenStreet UK holds full responsibility for Safeguarding during the event.

Whilst TeenStreet UK is the main event on site, Capernwray Hall is a working site and as such visitors may be present. Visitors are required to sign in at reception and must be accompanied onsite at all times should a sufficient DBS check not be in evidence.

All participants and OM workers at TeenStreet UK, plus all Capernwray staff, will abide by the lanyard and wristband guidelines laid out in the Kingdom Lifestyle statement.

Should a teen or OM worker encounter an individual without a lanyard and wristband, they must report the individual to a member of the TeenStreet UK or Capernwray staff.

The pool and other sports facilities may be in use during the week of TeenStreet UK's event. These individuals will not be interacting with the events run by TeenStreet UK, nor abiding by badge and wristband guidelines.

Capernwray Hall assures that such individuals will not be present in other areas of the site.

Appendix I: “Community Lifestyle” Statement

At TeenStreet we want to create a safe place and community where everyone can develop a real relationship with Jesus to reflect Him in their world.

We are a community of people of different ages, from many different nationalities, cultures and church backgrounds. We want to enjoy the various styles of worship, behaviour, speech, and culture during TeenStreet without judging others according to our own lifestyle, but rather "love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbours as we love ourselves" (Mark 12:30-31).

Our main rules

1. Respect God
2. Respect each other
3. Respect property

Your own and others' safety

Illegal actions

All illegal actions are prohibited at TeenStreet. In the case of an illegal action taking place, TeenStreet staff are required by law to report it to the police. Examples of illegal activities include, but are not limited to, drug taking or possession of drugs, the inappropriate use of knives, violent behaviour, threats, vandalism, and racism.

Alcohol, smoking and illegal drugs

The use of alcohol, smoking any substance is prohibited at TeenStreet.

Badges and wristbands

Badges must be always worn round the neck, and wristbands on wrists. This is so we can easily identify you onsite. If you lose your badge or wristband, please get a new one from the Information Desk.

Love and respect yourself and others

Love and respect

People at TeenStreet come from many different nationalities, church backgrounds and cultures. It is vital that we all show love and respect to each other.

Swearing and offensive language

Swearing and offensive language is prohibited at TeenStreet. Whilst you might not find a word offensive, someone else might.

Taking part

You are expected to take part in the morning teachings, NET group times and evening worship at TeenStreet. We do encourage you to take part in other activities including seminars, workshops, and RAG (Raise and Give Race). If you are unwell or need to be absent from the programme for any other reason, discuss this with your Coach and/or other TeenStreet Staff.

Accommodation

Guys cannot enter girls' accommodation, and girls cannot enter guys' accommodation – both tents and dorms.

Sleep and quiet

TeenStreet days are long, busy, and fun, and we all need sleep! You must be in your own accommodation by the time set on the schedule and ensure that you are quiet no later than 30 minutes after that time to respect those who aren't evening people.

You must also stay quiet until 7am, to respect those around you who may need more sleep or who aren't morning people.

Respect others' right and wishes

Some people attending TeenStreet do not wish to have their image or names on social media or in public. This may be due to cultural sensitivities, legal reasons or simply personal preference. You must have each persons' permission before posting anything publicly online.

Belongings

You must not borrow, move or touch anyone else's belongings without their permission.

Dressing respectfully

- Keep shorts and skirts to at least fingertip length when stood up. Your clothing should not expose your underwear.
- Ensure you are wearing a top at all times that is not see-through, cropped, or low-cut. Guys must wear their shirts even when playing sports.
- Girls should wear bras or an equivalent under their shirts. Bra straps must not be visible.
- You must not wear clothes or accessories with offensive text or graphics.

We look forward to seeing you at TeenStreet; let's go deep, have fun and be bold!