

The Role of the Safeguarding Lead

Who is responsible for Safeguarding Children in activities organised by the Bahá'í community?

1. The National Spiritual Assembly has overall legal responsibility for keeping children safe in activities organised by the Bahá'í community.
2. The Office for Safeguarding Children is an appointed committee by the National Spiritual Assembly responsible for overseeing and supporting the community with implementing the Safeguarding Children Policy with the support of Safeguarding Leads.
3. Safeguarding Leads are appointed by Bahá'í Institutions and supported by the Office for Safeguarding Children.
4. All coordinators for children's classes and junior youth groups also serve as Cluster Safeguarding Leads with respect to these activities as a natural part of that role.
5. Temporary Safeguarding Leads may be appointed for specific events with under 18s present (this may be a dedicated team for larger activities e.g. overnight).



What are Cluster Safeguarding Leads responsible for?

- Acting as a local and available point of contact for general questions or concerns about safeguarding children.
- Giving advice based on the safeguarding children policy to organisers of local activities such as children's classes, junior youth groups, and Institute courses (e.g. childcare ratios of adults to children, consent for photos, etc.).
- Providing Level 1 Safeguarding Children training at least once a year.
- Reporting concerns and incidents about children at risk of harm through the National Spiritual Assembly's reporting system.
- Referring matters of concern about the safeguarding children policy and its implementation to the Office for Safeguarding Children.

The primary role of Safeguarding Leads is to assist those working with children to have the resources and knowledge they need to follow the Safeguarding Children policy.

Visit our safeguarding children pages at www.bahai.org.uk/safeguarding