



Student Leadership Conference Safeguarding & Code of Conduct Policy

In Partnership with ACSI and TeachBeyond UK & IRL 2026

1. Commitment

This Student Leadership Conference (SLC) is committed to creating a safe, respectful, and nurturing environment for all participants. Rooted in Christian values of dignity, respect, and servant leadership, we seek to ensure that every young person is protected from harm and able to grow, learn, and participate fully.

We affirm that all young people have a right to safety and wellbeing. Safeguarding is the responsibility of every adult involved in the camp. We operate a zero-tolerance approach to abuse or harmful behaviour of any kind; any concerns will be taken seriously and responded to promptly and appropriately.

Our safeguarding objectives are to:

- Promote the safety and wellbeing of all students (ages 13–18)
- Ensure all adults model healthy, respectful, and appropriate relationships
- Prevent harm and respond appropriately to any safeguarding concern

2. Scope and Responsibility

This policy applies to school chaperones, camp leaders, and volunteers. This camp, to be held from 14th to 17th October 2026, operates in the United Kingdom and adheres to UK safeguarding expectations and good practice, including:

- [Duty of care under UK law](#)
- [Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance](#)
- Expectations around safer recruitment and DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks for UK-based staff and volunteers
- [Consideration of international safeguarding standards for visiting schools](#)

The following requirements must be completed by the end of August 2026:

1. Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct

All participating school chaperones, camp leaders and volunteers must read the Student Leadership Conference Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct carefully and sign the document. If an individual is unable to sign the document for any reason, they must contact Bronwen Coe at safeguarding@teachbeyond.org. The document will be provided in both PDF and Word formats.

2. School Chaperone Background Checks

All participating schools must ensure that their chaperones meet the safeguarding and background check requirements applicable in their own country. Confirmation that the relevant background checks or police checks have been completed must be sent to Bronwen Coe at safeguarding@teachbeyond.org by 31 August 2026.

3. School Safeguarding Policy

Each participating school must provide the SLC Designated Safeguarding Lead with a copy of its current safeguarding or child protection policy. The policy must be sent to Bronwen Coe at safeguarding@teachbeyond.org by 31 August 2026.

4. Camp Leader and Volunteer Background Checks

All camp leaders and volunteers must provide confirmation that the appropriate background checks or police checks have been completed. Confirmation must be sent to Bronwen Coe at safeguarding@teachbeyond.org by 31 August 2026.

Further Requirements in September

The date for the online safeguarding training session will be communicated in September. Attendance at this training session is mandatory for all school chaperones, camp leaders and volunteers.

Key roles:

School Chaperones (School-Based Responsibility):

School Chaperones have **primary responsibility** for the safety, supervision, and wellbeing of their students at all times. They must ensure participation in all activities, attend required briefings, facilitate debrief sessions, encourage positive and cross-cultural engagement, provide pastoral support, and model Christ-like servant leadership in attitude, words, and behaviour.

Camp Leaders and Volunteers (SLC Program Responsibility):

Camp leaders and volunteers are responsible for delivering activities safely, maintaining a secure and organized environment, supporting (but not replacing) chaperones, and following safeguarding procedures at all times. All adults share a duty of care and must act if concerns arise.

Venue Site Responsibilities

SLC Camp will be held at [The Quinta Christian Conference Centre](#) in Shropshire. The venue is responsible for the safeguarding and management of the premises, buildings, and site facilities, including health and safety procedures, fire safety, security, and the supervision of venue staff. All SLC staff and volunteers will be provided with and expected to follow relevant venue policies and guidance, including the [Quinta Handbook](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

SLC retains responsibility for the safeguarding and supervision of **students** participating in camp activities. However, where relevant, SLC will cooperate with venue management regarding any concerns relating to site safety, welfare, or safeguarding matters connected to the premises or venue staff.

3. What is a Safeguarding Concern?

A safeguarding concern is any worry, suspicion, disclosure, or observation that a student may be at risk of harm, has experienced harm, or that this policy may have been breached by a school chaperone, camp leader, or volunteer. This includes any concern relating to a student's safety or wellbeing, including disclosures made by students, inappropriate behaviour or relationships, unsafe practices, or reports of current or past harm. Concerns may also relate to self harm or suicidal ideation.

It is not the role of any adult to determine whether harm has occurred—every concern, no matter how small, must be immediately reported to the SCL DSL (Bronwen Coe) and will be responded to seriously.

4. Raising Safeguarding Concerns

If a student discloses harm: listen calmly, reassure them, do not promise secrecy (but explain confidentiality), record key information, and raise your concern immediately to the SLC DSL. Do not investigate or attempt to resolve concerns yourself.

All safeguarding concerns (see Section 3) must be reported to the SLC Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Bronwen Coe, immediately. All concerns will be taken seriously and managed in accordance with UK safeguarding procedures, TeachBeyond Response Strategies, and, where relevant, in partnership with the child's sending school.

Emergency (UK): Call 999, then inform the SLC DSL.

5. Additional Camp Safeguarding Procedures

- **Supervision:** Students must not be left unsupervised. Chaperones retain responsibility at all times.
- **Accommodation:** Clear arrangements must ensure appropriate separation by gender and age. Adults must not share rooms with students. Students should not enter into other students' rooms. Where a student has specific needs that require additional consideration, sleeping arrangements should be determined on a case-by-case basis by camp leadership. This may include medical, safeguarding, behavioural, privacy, or individual needs relating to a student's gender or personal circumstances, including where a child is claiming to be transgender or questioning their gender. Where appropriate, single

room accommodation or other suitable arrangements may be considered to support the safety, privacy, dignity, and well-being of the student and others. Any such arrangement should be agreed by camp leadership in advance, with appropriate communication to relevant staff, the child, and the child's parent or guardian. Arrangements should be handled sensitively, respectfully, and with due consideration for the child's privacy and dignity.

- **Ratios:** Each school must provide appropriate adult-to-student ratios in line with their national guidance (recommended minimum 1:10 will accept 1:15).
- **Photography & Media:** Informed consent must be obtained before any images are taken, used, or shared by only the designated photographer, who will be informed of which students may or may not be photographed. No adult or student is permitted to take private or unauthorized images during the camp. Staff and volunteers must not invite, accept, or maintain students as friends or followers on any personal social media platform.
- **Transport & Movement:** Students must not leave the site without permission and supervision.
- **Student Phones:** Chaperones will be responsible for managing students' phones and electronic devices during camp. Devices will be collected and securely stored, with access permitted at designated times or in the event of an emergency.

6. Code of Conduct & Expected Behaviour

All adults, including school chaperones, camp leaders and volunteers, must model safe, respectful, and professional behaviour at all times, recognizing their position of trust and responsibility towards students.

1. Respect and Dignity

Treat every student with dignity, fairness, and respect, valuing their individual backgrounds and needs. Avoid favouritism, exclusive relationships, or any behaviour that could make a student feel excluded or dependent.

2. Professional Boundaries and Power Awareness

Maintain clear and appropriate boundaries at all times, recognizing that students come from a wide range of cultural backgrounds and exercising additional care, sensitivity, and professionalism in all interactions. Always remain aware of the inherent power imbalance and act in the student's best interests.

3. Visibility and Accountability

Interactions with students should be open, observable, and accountable. Avoid private or isolated situations; where one-to-one interaction is necessary, ensure that other staff members are aware and that appropriate safeguards are in place.

4. Appropriate Communication

Use respectful and appropriate language and behaviour in all interactions, both in person and online. Communication must be transparent and professional at all times. Adults must not communicate with students via personal social media or private messaging platforms.

5. Safe and Appropriate Physical Contact

Any physical contact must be appropriate, non-intrusive, and respectful, always guided by the

student's comfort and consent. Physical contact must never be secretive, excessive, or meet the needs of the adult.

6. Safeguarding Responsibility

All adults share responsibility for safeguarding and must respond appropriately to any concerns in accordance with the SLC Safeguarding Policy

7. Confidentiality and Information Sharing

Handle personal information relating to a child and their family responsibly and share it only on a need-to-know basis, such as with authorised individuals and SLC leaders to protect the child's privacy, dignity, safety, and wellbeing. Confidentiality must never prevent the reporting of a safeguarding concern.

Agreement

All adults participating in the camp must confirm:

- I have read and understood this Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct
- I agree to follow all guidelines and procedures
- I understand my responsibility to raise all concerns to the DSL
- Failure to follow this policy may result in removal from the camp, notification to the relevant school or organisation, and further disciplinary or legal action.

Name: _____

Role: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____