

 **Safeguarding Policy**

**The companies belonging to Next Generation Travel** **(NGT)**

Anglia Tours, WST Travel Limited, Study Experiences and Sports Experiences

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# Safeguarding Statement

NGT believe that it is unacceptable for a child to experience any kind of exploitation or abuse and acknowledge that it is their duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to help Group Leaders to safeguard children and vulnerable adults whilst on tour. NGT are committed to ensuring a safeguarding policy that complies with statutory responsibilities, government guidance and best practice.

NGT recognises that, when travelling on school trips:

* The welfare of children carries the utmost importance
* All children, regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs, equally have the right to be safeguarded from all forms of abuse and harm

NGT recognises that some children can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and accept the need to take responsibility and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare. As part of our safeguarding policy, we will:

* Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults on tours arranged by the member companies of NGT companies
* Ensure that everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns.
* Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents or concerns of abuse and that support is provided to the individual(s) who raise or disclose the concern
* Ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and security stored
* Prevent the employment of unsuitable individuals, ensuring appropriate checks for staff.
* Ensure safeguarding measures also cover digital and online risks, site security and the privacy and dignity of children and vulnerable adults.

Therefore, this policy states that all reported concerns and allegations of abuse and harm will be taken seriously and responded to appropriately.

The policy and procedures are mandatory for all members of NGT companies and staff. The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis or in the event of the following circumstances:

* Changes in legislation and/or government guidance
* As required by the local Safeguarding Children Board and/or appropriate National Governing Bodes
* As a result of any other significant change or event



Maria Whiteman

Managing Director

14th July 2025

Last review 07/07/2025, next review July 2026



1. **Management Responsibility**

Managers in the NGT Group understand that Group Leaders are responsible for the safeguarding of their students whilst on tour. We will ensure that all staff are made aware of the importance of safeguarding and that assistance is provided, as necessary, to Group Leaders. All reports of abuse will be passed on to Maria Whiteman, Managing Director MD

1. **Other responsibilities**

We will ensure that all staff are made aware of the safeguarding issues faced by Group Leaders. We will ensure that all staff receive annual training re safeguarding and regular updates appropriate to their roles, and will be given clear advise on how to respond if informed of any issues of abuse, neglect or other safeguarding concerns.

Any NGT staff who accompany a school trip will be subject to a DBS disclosure check. They will be given clear information on their role on the tour.

1. **Disclosures**

We will ensure that all staff are made aware that any reports of abuse remain confidential and are reported only to Maria Whiteman, Managing Director MD. Staff will be given appropriate training to enable them to support the person who has raised the concern.

1. **Reporting**

Any reports of incidents will be recorded promptly and stored securely in compliance with relevant date protection law.

1. **Training/Information**

We will ensure that all staff are made aware of the safeguarding issues faced by Group Leaders. We will ensure that all staff receive annual training re safeguarding and that they know how to react if they are informed of any issues of abuse or neglect or any other safeguarding issues.

1. **Suppliers**
	* UK Coach Companies – we will ensure that all coach operators, used to transport students, ensure that all their drivers have been appropriately vetted and that required background checks and criminal record checks have been carried out.
	* Accommodation – we will ensure that we use only accommodation units which are experienced in accommodating children. Any contact with pupils should only take place in the presence of the Group Leaders on tour. We will monitor customer feedback to ensure that the accommodation used in suitable for the needs of children.
	* Overseas Coach Companies – we will ensure that we work only with coach companies which are experienced in working with groups of children. Any contact with pupils should only take place in the presence of the Group Leaders on tour. We will monitor customer feedback to ensure that the coach companies used are suitable.



1. **Digital and Online Safeguarding**

NGT recognises that safeguarding risks may arise through the use of digital devices and online communications therefore:

* Staff are trained to understand and manage risks posed by digital imaging, mobile devices and online interactions
* Any use of digital media involving children must be appropriate, respectful and authorised by the Group Leader.
* We do not collect or publish images or digital content featuring children without prior consent from the Group Leader and parents/guardians.
1. **Security Arrangements**
* We work with accommodation providers and venues that are assessed to ensure appropriate security and supervision measures are in place.
* Where facilities are shared with other groups, we ensure procedures are in place to maintain separation and appropriate supervision.
* Group Leaders are informed in advance about shared facilities and security arrangements.
1. **Privacy Protection**
* Appropriate privacy in accommodation settings, sleeping arrangements and washing/changing facilities.
* Ensuring any contact with other groups or students by suppliers occurs only in the presence of Group Leaders.
1. **Legal Framework & Links**
* Children Act 1898
* United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
* Data Protection Act 1998
* Sexual Offences Act 2003
* Children Act 2004
* Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
* Relevant government guidance on safeguarding children:
	+ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-young-people/safeguarding-children-and-young-people>
	+ https:/www.nspcc.org.uk/
	+ <http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding>
	+ http://www.oeapng.info

