



SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The Gurkha Welfare Trust (the Trust) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and adults at risk who come into contact with our work. We recognise our responsibility to take all reasonable steps to prevent harm, abuse, and exploitation, and to respond appropriately if concerns arise.

This commitment applies to all of the Trust's beneficiaries, staff, supporters, volunteers, contractors and Trustee-Directors and anyone working on behalf of the organisation. It also includes safeguarding the wellbeing of our staff when working with beneficiaries.

For the purposes of this statement, children and adults at risk are referred to as 'vulnerable individuals'.

OUR COMMITMENT

The Trust will:

- Promote the safety, dignity, and wellbeing of all vulnerable individuals;
- Take reasonable steps to prevent harm through safe recruitment, appropriate checks, and training;
- Ensure all staff and volunteers understand their safeguarding responsibilities;
- Respond promptly, appropriately, and sensitively to any safeguarding concerns, allegations or suspicions;
- Work in partnership with relevant authorities, including safeguarding agencies, the police, and the Charity Commission for England and Wales where required.

SAFER WORKING PRACTICES

We seek to reduce safeguarding risks by:

- Undertaking risk assessments for relevant activities and events;
- Carrying out appropriate DBS or equivalent background checks where roles are eligible;
- Ensuring staff and volunteers are made aware of and follow safeguarding procedures and standards.

REPORTING CONCERNS

All safeguarding concerns are taken seriously. Any concerns about the safety or well-being of a vulnerable individual, or concerns about the behaviour of a member of staff, volunteer, or representative of the Trust, should be reported without delay to the Trust's designated safeguarding lead or senior management team in the UK or Nepal.

Concerns will be handled sensitively, fairly, and in confidence wherever possible. The safety and well-being of vulnerable individuals will always be our first priority.

REVIEW

This statement is reviewed regularly and updated as required.