



Child Protection Policy

Bangladesh Socio Cultural Forum (BSCF)

1. Purpose

Bangladesh Socio Cultural Forum (BSCF) is committed to ensuring that all children involved in its programs and activities are safe, respected, and protected from harm.

Children have the right to grow, learn, and participate in activities in a safe environment. This Child Protection Policy outlines the steps BSCF takes to prevent abuse, respond to concerns, and ensure that children's well-being is always prioritized.

BSCF has zero tolerance for any form of child abuse, exploitation, or neglect.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- BSCF staff members
- Volunteers
- Interns
- Youth Network members
- Event organizers
- Partner organizations
- Anyone representing BSCF during activities involving children

This policy applies to all BSCF activities where children may participate, including:

- Educational camps
- Workshops and training programs
- Community outreach activities
- Cultural events
- Online programs

For the purpose of this policy, a child is defined as anyone under the age of 18.





3. Types of Child Abuse

Child abuse can take several forms.

Physical Abuse

Harming a child physically through hitting, pushing, or other violent actions.

Emotional Abuse

Humiliating, threatening, or verbally abusing a child.

Sexual Abuse

Any inappropriate sexual behavior involving a child.

Neglect

Failing to provide proper care, supervision, or protection.

All forms of abuse are strictly prohibited within BSCF activities.

4. Principles of Child Protection

BSCF follows these key principles:

Safety First

The safety and well-being of children must always come before organizational interests.

Respect and Dignity

Children should be treated with respect and kindness.

Prevention

Measures should be taken to reduce risks to children during programs.

Responsibility

Everyone involved with BSCF has a duty to protect children.





5. Expected Behavior Around Children

Members of BSCF should follow these guidelines when interacting with children:

- Treat children with respect and patience
- Avoid being alone with a child in private spaces whenever possible
- Maintain appropriate physical boundaries
- Use respectful language
- Ensure activities are supervised by responsible adults

Members should never engage in behavior that could harm or exploit a child.

6. Real-Life Situations and BSCF Response

Situation 1: Inappropriate Communication

A volunteer begins sending personal messages to a child participant outside of program-related communication.

What BSCF Will Do

- The issue should be reported immediately to the event coordinator or leadership.
- BSCF will review the communication and investigate the situation.
- If the behavior is inappropriate, the volunteer may be removed from the program and prohibited from working with children.

Situation 2: Unsafe Supervision

During an event, children are left unsupervised for a long period of time.

What BSCF Will Do

- Event organizers will ensure proper supervision immediately.
- Leaders will review the program management to prevent similar situations in the future.
- Clear responsibilities for child supervision will be assigned in future events.





Situation 3: Verbal Abuse

A volunteer becomes angry and shouts at a child participant in a humiliating manner.

What BSCF Will Do

- The situation will be addressed immediately by the event coordinator.
- The volunteer will receive guidance or warning regarding appropriate behavior.
- Repeated incidents may result in removal from responsibilities involving children.

Situation 4: Suspicion of Abuse

A member notices signs that a child participant may be experiencing abuse outside the program.

What BSCF Will Do

- The concern should be reported to the leadership team immediately.
- BSCF will handle the situation carefully and confidentially.
- If necessary, the issue may be referred to appropriate authorities or child protection services.

7. Photography and Media

BSCF may take photos or videos during events. However:

- Children should not be photographed in a way that compromises their dignity or safety.
- Permission should be obtained when appropriate.
- Images should not be used in ways that expose children to harm.



8. Reporting Concerns

Anyone who suspects child abuse or unsafe behavior should report it immediately to:

- Event coordinator
- Program lead
- Executive Committee member

Reports will be handled confidentially and responsibly.

BSCF encourages members to report concerns without fear of punishment.

9. Responsibility of Members

All members of BSCF must:

- Follow child protection guidelines
- Report concerns immediately
- Act in the best interests of children during programs

Protecting children is a shared responsibility.





10. Policy Review

This Child Protection Policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure that BSCF continues to maintain a safe environment for children in all activities.

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