

IGC Safeguarding Guidance

The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) is committed to ensuring the safety of everyone involved in School activities. The School has a [Safeguarding Policy](#) that sets out its overall approach to safeguarding. At the IGC we acknowledge our duty of care to staff, researchers and others conducting activities on our behalf by assessing and mitigating risks.

“Safeguarding” as defined by the UK Collaborative for Development Research, with the support of UK Funding bodies, means *“Preventing and addressing any sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment of research participants, communities and research staff, plus any broader forms of violence, exploitation and abuse relevant to research such as: bullying, psychological abuse, and physical violence.”*

More broadly preventing harm to children, young people, or vulnerable adults because of School research or international activities. At times we work with vulnerable groups as do many of our partners, such as when conducting field work, events and policy engagement.

IGC is committed to:

- Supporting and respecting the protection of human rights and complying with national and international requirements.
- Assessing safeguarding risks and putting appropriate mitigation in place across our country and initiative research activities, where research or other activities involve vulnerable groups.
- Undertake due diligence with partners to ensure safeguarding policies and procedures are in place.
- Considering safeguarding of vulnerable groups in research design and outputs.
- Promote awareness of LSE safeguarding commitments, reporting mechanisms and available support for the LSE Community, research participants and vulnerable groups whilst reviewing and strengthening measures to prevent harm.
- Promoting a culture whereby staff can report and feel supported in making disclosures.
- Take appropriate steps to investigate any behaviour, in the course of IGC activities, that results in a breach of LSE’s Safeguarding Policy.
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Expectations of Partners, Principle Investigators and Research Staff

- Commit to preventing harm and follow institution or LSE procedures should an incident arise to ensure it will be dealt with fairly, diligently, and promptly.
- Consider safeguarding in programme design and research to prevent actual, attempted or threatened sexual exploitation, abuse, harm or other forms of inequitable treatment or discrimination in our engagements.
- Follow clear procedures in place for sexual exploitation, abuse and harm (SEAH) to be recognised, reported and investigated.
- Treat all research participants, with fairness and equality, and in ways that maintain their dignity and rights.

It is mandatory for all our staff and partners to report immediately any suspected or alleged case of exploitation, abuse, harm, or policy non-compliance. Our safeguarding reporting process is confidential and impartial, with all reports taken seriously.

Disclosures of safeguarding incidents can be made to igc.reporting@lse.ac.uk, or to the IGC Director of Operations and IGC safeguarding lead, Nick Dale, n.r.dale@lse.ac.uk. You can also report to LSE directly by using the online form [Report it Stop it](#). This report can be completely anonymous.

Concerns relating to FCDO programmes can also be made to FCDO's Reporting Concerns inbox at reportingconcerns@fcdo.gov.uk or through the confidential reporting hotline +44 (0)1355 843 747

For more information see [LSE's Safeguarding in Research and International Activities policy](#).