

Children Policy Statement



According to Robinson Club Soma Bay “Child abuse” or “maltreatment” constitutes ‘all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child’s health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power.

Definitions of abuse

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. An individual may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or failing to act to prevent harm. Neglect or abuse, physically, emotionally or sexually, can have major long-term effects on all aspects of a child’s health, development and wellbeing. Sustained abuse is likely to have a deep impact on the child’s self-image and self-esteem, and on his or her future life. Harm may occur intentionally or unintentionally.

Physical abuse

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or caregiver fabricated the symptoms of, or deliberately induced, illness in a child.

Emotional abuse

- Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child’s emotional development. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.
- Parents/caregivers of children with multiple needs may find it difficult to ensure that the full range of their needs, including their emotional needs, is met. It may be hard to include such children in everyday activities alongside other family members, but not to include them may be harmful.

Sexual abuse

- Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person into sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening.
- They may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of sexual online or printed images, watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

CHILD PROTECTION

A broad term to describe philosophies, policies, standards, guidelines and procedures to protect children from both intentional and unintentional harm.

In the current context, it applies particularly to the duty of Robinson Club Soma Bay and individuals associated with Robinson towards children in their care.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

A statement of intent that demonstrates a commitment to safeguard children from harm and makes clear to all what is required in relation to the protection of children, It helps to create a safe and positive environment for children and to show that Robinson Club Soma Bay is taking its duty and responsibility of care seriously.



Robinson Club Soma Bay's Child Protection Policy

A child protection policy provides a framework of principles, standards and guidelines on which to base individual and departmental practice in relation to areas, such as:

- Creating a 'child safe' and 'child friendly' system (in relation to environmental safety as well as protection against physical, psychological and sexual abuse).
- Prevention of abuse.
- Personnel recruitment and training.
- Robust management systems.
- Guidelines for appropriate and inappropriate behavior / attitude.
- Guidelines for communications regarding children.
- Recognizing, reporting and reacting to allegations of abuse.
- Ramifications of misconduct for those failing to follow the policy.

A policy is not necessarily solely directed towards sexual abuse, but rather may also encompass all aspects of child protection including, but not limited to: disciplinary measures, health and safety measures, physical harm, working with information about children, proper recruitment and managerial procedures, and the ramifications of bad behavior.

Adopting a child protection policy does not absolve Robinson Club Soma Bay from further action, it is the beginning, not the end of child protection, the policy does not have to be solely directed towards sexual abuse, the policy does not have to be exclusive to departments working directly with children on a regular basis, we believe that every department (whether they work directly or indirectly with children) must take responsibility for child protection.

Operational procedures for the application of Robinson Club Soma Bay's policy to protect children

1. PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT

- Police check for information of previous convictions or investigations relating to child protection.
- Commitment to the child protection policy must be a condition of employment.
- Candidate specification included with job description.
- Successful candidate must sign personal declaration of criminal convictions.

2. EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Induction process for all Robinson Club Soma Bay's staff, including child protection policy principles and procedures, learning about, recognizing and responding to child abuse.
- Training on behavior guidelines available for those with direct contact with children.
- New employed staff to receive child protection training as soon as possible (within 3 months at latest).



3. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

- Open lines of communication; atmosphere of support and encouragement for reporting; positive environment for giving and receiving feedback.
- Designated person to implement the child protection policy.
- Role of designated child protection person is clearly defined.
- Ongoing supervision, monitoring and support for all personnel.
- Trustees' / Executive Body overall responsibility / oversight to ensure implementation.

4. RAMIFICATIONS OF MISCONDUCT

- In the case of an allegation by a named individual from a verifiable source, the accused individual to be suspended until the outcome of an independent investigation.
- Outline disciplinary and other steps which may include reporting to the police and considered organizations.

5. Contact to Report

- Tourist Police Tel : 0653260561
- UNICEF Office in Cairo Tel: +20-2-2526-5083 Fax : +20-2-2526-4218
Email : cairo@unicef.org .