



Child Safeguarding Framework

Welcome to the Nutrition Dialogues Child Safeguarding Framework for Children's Workshops. This Framework is designed to inform Convenors of Children's Workshops about the child safeguarding standards and the requirements they must adhere to in order to convene a Children's Workshop as part of the Nutrition Dialogues programme.



Children's and young people's participation is a central component of the Nutrition Dialogues, which brings their voices up to global decision-makers. This approach is based on the premise that children will engage in safe spaces where potential risks are appropriately identified and addressed. Hence, Convenors of all Children's Workshops of the Nutrition Dialogues programme must follow child safeguarding standards to ensure that children and young people's participation is ethical, safe, inclusive, sensitive to risks and respectful of local values and cultures.

This Framework

- presents the **Child Safeguarding Standards** of the Nutrition Dialogues programme;
- describes the **requirements for Convenors** to organize and conduct a Children's Workshop;
- provides in the Annex a preview of the **Consent Forms for children and for parents**, and of the **Child Safeguarding Statement** for Convenors of Children's Workshops.

STANDARDS



The Child Safeguarding Standards of the Nutrition Dialogues programme are:

- **Voluntary participation:** Children's participation in the Children's Workshops of the Nutrition Dialogues programme must be voluntary, informed and inclusive.
- **Informed Consent for Child Participation:** All child participants and their parents/guardians must sign the consent forms.
- **Specific consent for safe communications:** It is necessary to collect separate consent from children and parents/guardians to use photos and videos from child participants.
- **Opt-out:** It's crucial to remember that child participants have the right to withdraw their consent at any time for any reason. This respect for their autonomy is a key part of the safeguarding framework.
- **Child Participation Risk Assessment:** The Convenor must consider, prepare for, and protect children and young people from any potential physical, social, or emotional harm that may arise from the Children's Workshops.
- **Child-friendly Safeguarding Awareness-Raising:** The Convenor must inform children about acceptable and unacceptable behaviours while working with children.
- **Reporting mechanism:** The Convenor must establish a reporting mechanism to ensure children can report unacceptable behaviours if they feel uncomfortable.
- **Online Safety:** For online sessions, it is the Convenor's responsibility to share a child-friendly online code of conduct. This code ensures a safe and respectful online environment for all participants.

REQUIREMENTS

Before a Children's Workshop can be announced on the online Portal (nutritiondialogues.org) as contributing to the Nutrition Dialogues programme, Convenors must adhere to the following six requirements:

1. Qualification Requirement

Only Convenors with appropriate qualifications and training can conduct Children's Workshops that contribute to the Nutrition Dialogues programme. Sufficient training includes participation in or viewing of the Nutrition Dialogues Child Safeguarding Briefing which is expected to take place in September 2024. For Convenors, this is a self-declaration checkbox on the Portal.

Individuals who fulfil the following guidelines are considered qualified or trained to run a Children's Workshop:

Adult Convenor

- Be familiar and enthusiastic with nutrition issues and bringing children together to discuss these topics.
- Be familiar with child participation and child safeguarding approaches and techniques.
- Be familiar with the child participants and their environments.
- Have the convening capacity to invite children to join the Children's Workshop of the Nutrition Dialogues programme.

Young person Convenor

- Age: Be between the ages of 12 and 18.
- Representation: Be part of any children and young people's group or be selected by peers to represent their own children's constituencies.
- Commitment: Keen to organise a Children's Workshop, invite children to participate, and follow up on issues related to the Nutrition Dialogues programme.
- Experience: Previous experience running community-based sessions, meetings or consultations with children.
- Knowledge: Interest and familiarity, from a young person's perspective, with themes such as hunger, nutrition, children's rights, participation, and empowerment.

2. Safety & Security Requirement

Convenors must have clean criminal records.
For Convenors, this is a self-declaration checkbox on the Portal.

3. Team Commitment Requirement

Convenors must ensure that their event team members adhere to child safeguarding standards.
For Convenors, this is a self-declaration checkbox on the Portal on behalf of their event team.

4. Informed Consent

Convenors must ensure consent forms are distributed, signed, and collected from all participating children and young people, and their parents or guardians.
A template is available on the Portal for adaptation (see preview in Annex 1 and 2).
For Convenors, agreeing to collect consent forms is a self-declaration checkbox on the Portal. The forms are for Convenor's records only and are not to be uploaded to the Portal.

5. Distress Response Requirement


Convenors and their event teams must be able to prevent and respond to a child or young person in distress during the Children's Workshops. Convenors should have contact information for relevant service providers, including child protection, health, and nutrition services, readily available.
For Convenors, preparedness for distress responses is a self-declaration checkbox on the Portal.

6. Accountability Statement Requirement

The Child Safeguarding Statement is an acknowledgement of the standards and requirements and recognition of the Convenors responsibility to uphold the standards with their event team before, during and after the Children's Workshop. **Convenors must download, sign and upload the Nutrition Dialogues Child Safeguarding Statement on the Portal** in PDF, jpg, jpeg or png format (up to 5MB) (see preview in Annex 3).

ANNEX 1

Participant Consent Form Preview



**Consent Form for Children and Young People
to Participate in a Children's Workshop**

I, _____ from _____, agree to participate in the Children's Workshop titled, [event name] of the Nutrition Dialogues programme organised by [Convenor name] on [event date].

I agree to take part in the Children's Workshop	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I confirm that my parent/guardian authorises my participation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I can ask to withdraw my participation without giving a reason at any time	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I agree to have my contribution documented in notes, with my identity kept anonymous	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that information collected from the Children's Workshop will be shared publicly through a report online	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that the organisers will not release any of my personal information beyond the event	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Signature of Participant: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

A word version for editing is available on the Portal at nutritiondialogues.org/guidance/guidance-resources

ANNEX 2

Parent/Guardian Consent Form Preview



Consent Form for Parents and Guardians of Children and Young People to Participate in a Children's Workshop

I, _____ from _____, authorise the child/young person in my care, _____ to participate in the Children's Workshop titled, [event name] of the Nutrition Dialogues programme organised by [Convenor name] on [event date].

I give permission for this child in my care to attend this [face-to-face or online] Children's Workshop	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that the organisers will follow child safeguarding standards to make sure all children and young people are safe	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that they can stop their involvement in the Workshop at any time without any reason	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I recognise that the organisers will protect their privacy, and they will not release any personal information beyond the event	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I understand there will be a report about the event made publicly but that all contributions are anonymous	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Signature of parent/guardian: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

A word version for editing is available on the Portal at nutritiondialogues.org/guidance/guidance-resources

ANNEX 3

Child Safeguarding Statement Preview



CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT for Convenors of Children's Workshops

Children's and young people's participation is a central component of the Nutrition Dialogues, which brings their voices up to global decision-makers. This approach is based on the premise that children will engage in safe spaces where potential risks are appropriately identified and addressed. Hence, all Children's Workshops of the Nutrition Dialogues programme must follow these child safeguarding standards to ensure that children and young people's participation is ethical, safe, inclusive, sensitive to risks and respectful of local values and cultures.

Child Safeguarding Standards

- **Voluntary participation:** Children's participation in the Children's Workshops of the Nutrition Dialogues programme must be voluntary, informed and inclusive.
- **Informed Consent for Child Participation:** All child participants and their parents/guardian must sign the consent forms.
- **Specific consent for safe communications:** It is necessary to collect separate consent from children and parents/guardians to use photos and videos from child participants.
- **Opt-out:** It's crucial to remember that child participants have the right to withdraw their consent at any time for any reason. This respect for their autonomy is a key part of our safeguarding framework.
- **Child Participation Risk Assessment:** The Convenor must consider, prepare for, and protect children and young people from any potential physical, social, or emotional harm that may arise from the Children's Workshop.
- **Child-friendly Safeguarding Awareness-Raising:** The Convenor must inform children about acceptable and unacceptable behaviours while working with children.
- **Reporting mechanism:** The Convenor must establish a reporting mechanism to ensure children can report unacceptable behaviours if they feel uncomfortable.
- **Online Safety:** For online sessions, it's the Convenor's responsibility to share a child-friendly online code of conduct. This code ensures a safe and respectful online environment for all participants.

Related Requirements

1. I am qualified/trained to convene a Children's Workshop
2. I have a clear criminal record
3. I will ensure my event team adheres to the safeguarding standards
4. I will implement child/parent consent forms
5. I will prevent and manage distress responses
6. I will submit this Safeguarding Statement on the Nutrition Dialogues Portal

I, _____, acknowledge the eight safeguarding standards and will satisfy the six requirements to demonstrate my recognition of my responsibility to ensure children are safe before, during and after all Children's Workshops that I engage with.

Convenor Signature:

Date:

Place:

The PDF is available to download and print from the Portal at nutritiondialogues.org/guidance/guidance-resources