

# Green The Environment (GTE)

Green The Environment Digital Safeguarding Policy



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# **Green The Environment (GTE) Digital Safeguarding Policy**

#### 1. Introduction

Green The Environment (GTE) is committed to ensuring that all individuals engaged in our digital initiatives are protected from harm, exploitation, and abuse. As we embrace the opportunities of digital platforms to promote environmental sustainability and raise awareness about critical issues, we recognize that these platforms may also present new risks to individuals, especially vulnerable groups such as children, young people, and vulnerable adults. This policy outlines our approach to safeguarding individuals in digital spaces, ensuring a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment.

## 2. Scope and Purpose

This policy applies to all GTE employees, volunteers, contractors, consultants, partners, and any third parties engaged in GTE's digital activities, including social media, websites, online campaigns, digital communications, and any other digital engagement initiatives.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the safety and well-being of individuals involved in GTE's digital work, prevent harm, and set clear expectations for responsible digital engagement.

# 3. Core Principles

GTE's digital safeguarding approach is based on the following principles:

- Respect for Human Rights and Dignity: All digital interactions must prioritize
  the safety, rights, and dignity of individuals, respecting diverse contexts and
  perspectives.
- **Privacy and Confidentiality**: We will protect personal data and ensure that individuals' privacy is maintained across all digital platforms.
- **Informed Consent**: GTE will seek informed consent from individuals before engaging them in digital initiatives, with particular care taken when involving children or vulnerable adults.
- Risk Awareness: We are committed to assessing, identifying, and mitigating the risks of digital engagement, including exposure to harmful content or online abuse.
- **Transparency and Accountability**: GTE will maintain transparency in its digital operations and take immediate action to address any violations of this policy.

### 4. Safeguarding Children, Young People, and Vulnerable Adults

GTE recognizes that children, young people, and vulnerable adults require special protection in digital spaces. Our safeguarding approach includes:

- Children and Young People: We will ensure informed consent from parents/guardians for minors' participation in digital initiatives, follow minimum age requirements, and provide digital safety education.
- **Vulnerable Adults**: GTE will provide tailored support and ensure that content is accessible and respectful of the specific needs of vulnerable adults.

#### 5. Risk Assessment and Privacy Impact Assessment

Before initiating any digital project, GTE will conduct a thorough risk assessment to identify potential threats, including:

- Harmful or inappropriate content
- · Privacy and data security risks
- Online harassment or exploitation

These assessments will help minimize risks and ensure the safety of all participants.

## 6. Breach of Policy

Breaches of this policy, including online harassment, abuse, or retaliation, will not be tolerated. GTE will take immediate disciplinary action, which may include termination of employment or partnerships.

### 7. Support for Survivors

Any individual who experiences harm, abuse, or exploitation within GTE's digital programs will be referred to appropriate support services, including counseling, medical, or legal assistance, as needed.

# 8. Reporting Concerns

Individuals who encounter concerns related to digital safeguarding should report them promptly. GTE provides clear reporting channels, including:

- · Safeguarding Leads or focal points
- Online reporting tools
- Data Protection Officers for privacy-related concerns

## 9. Responding to Complaints

GTE will act quickly to address any complaints or concerns, ensuring a thorough investigation, removal of harmful content, and support for affected individuals.

#### 10. Definitions

- Child: A person under the age of 18.
- Young Person/Youth: A person aged 15 to 24.
- Vulnerable Adult: An adult at risk of harm due to factors such as physical or mental health issues, age, or disability.
- Informed Consent: Clear, voluntary permission granted with full understanding of the risks involved.

#### 11. Conclusion

Green The Environment is dedicated to creating a digital environment that prioritizes safety, respect, and inclusion. This policy ensures that all individuals engaged in GTE's digital initiatives are protected from harm and are supported in a safe and empowering environment. GTE will continuously monitor and adapt its approach to address emerging risks in the digital landscape.

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