



## **Home For Good, Singapore (HFG-SG)** **Safeguarding Policy**

### **Policy Statement**

Home For Good, Singapore (HFG-SG) is committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of children and young people placed with our foster carers. We believe that every child and young person has the right to live free from abuse, neglect, and harm. We protect the children and young people in our care and promote their well-being.

### **1. Principles of Safeguarding**

HFG-SG upholds the following core principles of safeguarding:

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children have the right to protection from abuse and neglect.
- We will partner with other agencies to promote the welfare and safety of children and young people.
- We will listen to and respect children's and young people's views.
- We will ensure that all board, staff, volunteers, and foster carers receive appropriate training on safeguarding procedures and understand their roles and responsibilities.

### **2. Procedures**

#### **2.1 Recruitment and Selection of Foster Carers and Volunteers**

- Foster carers recruited through HFG-SG under the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) scheme will be assessed for their suitability through a Fostering Assessment Report, conducted by MSF-approved Fostering Agencies.
- Foster carers not under the MSF scheme will be assessed by qualified social workers or case managers in Child Protection Specialist Centres (CPSCs), Family Service Centres (FSCs), or religious organisations for their suitability to care for children and young people.
- Befrienders and volunteers will be assessed according to the specific criteria and requirements of the programmes they are part of, whether within MSF or other Social Service Agencies (SSAs).



## **2.2 Supporting and Monitoring**

- When a child or young person is placed with a foster carer or befriender, HFG-SG staff and peer supporters will support the foster carers and monitor the welfare and safety of the children or young people in their care.

- For MSF-approved foster carers and befrienders, we will adhere to all requirements of the MSF Fostering Service, MSF Child Protective Service, MSF-approved fostering agencies, and other SSAs we support.

- We will provide education and guidance to foster carers on safeguarding protocols and ensure they understand their responsibilities in protecting children and young people.

## **2.3 Recording and Reporting Concerns**

- All board, staff, volunteers, and foster carers must report concerns about a child or young person's welfare or safety.

- All concerns and incidents must be recorded accurately and promptly.

- Appropriate action will be taken to ensure the child or young person is safeguarded.

## **2.4 Responding to Allegations of Abuse or Neglect**

We will follow MSF procedures for handling allegations of abuse or neglect. This includes:

- Notifying the relevant authorities.
- Cooperating with investigations.
- Conducting internal reviews if required.
- Providing appropriate support to the affected child or young person and their family.

- All board, staff, volunteers, and foster carers will be made aware of the procedures for reporting and responding to allegations of abuse or neglect. It will receive training to handle such situations appropriately and sensitively.

**Revised 8 April 2025**

**Approved by the Board on 19 April 2025**