

BBC YOUNG REPORTER INDIA: CHILD SAFETY GUIDELINES



The “[BBC Young Reporter India](#)” is a media education programme launched by BBC News World Service in partnership with [Internews](#) and in collaboration with [DataLEADS](#) that helps school students in India develop media literacy skills, challenge online misinformation and become more informed citizens of tomorrow.

We are pleased to learn that you want to deliver the workshop to students, or that your school/educational institute is keen for a known trainer to deliver the “[BBC Young Reporter India](#)” workshop to your students.

We recommend you follow these guidelines to ensure the safety of the students. Everyone concerned in the workshop should follow the educational establishment’s child safety policy.

The programme and the guidelines are based on the BBC’s standard of child protection measures and are designed with the interest and rights of the participants as priority. The BBC considers all students under the age of 18 years to be children, and that all children should be protected by safeguarding measures.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- The safety and wellbeing of the child/student to be prioritised at all times.
- All children to be treated fairly without prejudice or discrimination.
- All communication regarding the training or this project to take place only with the school’s teachers / principal / nominated point of contact, and not directly with the children.
- If you are an external trainer, your contact with children / students to be limited to the programme / project / activity only.

- If you are an external trainer you should require a school teacher/point of contact (acting as the adult responsible for the children) to be present at all times, throughout any session being conducted as part of the programme. **You should avoid being alone with a child at all times.**
- All non-essential contact with children beyond the needs of the programme / project / activity to be avoided.
- All persons involved in training should not collect/store any personal contact data (email or mobile number) of students.
- All persons involved in training should not share their personal contact details, including their personal telephone numbers or social media accounts, with participants who are children. They also should not befriend any of the participants who are children on social media.
- All persons involved in training should not provide access to the zoom/training to any other person, adult or child, without full consent of the school.
- The workshop content is age appropriate (13-18), age appropriate examples and language should be used to deliver the workshop.
- Trainers request that schools set up the meeting link for virtual workshops.
- As part of safeguarding the privacy of students, all participants are actively discouraged from filming / taking photographs/screenshots of other students, trainers, team-members during or after the session and sharing them on any platform.
- The ZOOM breakout rooms feature is not recommended unless there are enough teachers to preside over each of the rooms.
- In cases where you need to record or photograph a session for quality control and promotional purposes, you should seek prior consent from the school.
- Trainers should not collect any feedback from participants who are children. Only approach **School teachers for help with** post-workshop feedback
- If you have any concerns about the safety and/or wellbeing of any children involved in the programme you should report your concerns to the teacher/point of contact/head teacher, as appropriate. In exceptional cases, if you think the school are not the appropriate organisation to deal with a child safeguarding issue you are concerned about, you should consider reporting your concerns to the police.