

# Standards of protection for minors at the Museum of Polish Children – Victims of Totalitarianism.

Short version for children

## Chapter 1 Explanation of terms

1. **A child** is any person up to the age of 18.
2. **The Museum's staff member** is any person who works at the Museum, i.e.: director, employee in charge, instructor, maintenance worker, etc.
3. By **child abuse** you should understand an intentional or unintentional act by an adult or another child that adversely affects your physical or psychological development.
4. **There are 4 basic forms of doing harm:**
  - **physical violence** includes:
    - pushing, pulling, slapping, pinching, kicking, strangling, beating with an open hand, fist or objects.
  - **psychological violence** includes:
    - humiliating, degrading, ridiculing, scolding, mocking, rejecting the child, dragging the child into adult conflicts, picking on the child for being different.
  - **sexual abuse** is the violation of a child's intimate sphere, forcing a child to look at naked people, taking pictures or videos of a child without clothing.
  - **neglect** is:
    - failure to meet the child's basic physical and mental needs or failure to respect the child's fundamental rights (malnutrition, clothing inappropriate for the season, neglect of hygiene, being left outside unattended in the evening and at night, failure to ensure sleep and rest hygiene, failure to send the child to school, no access to medical care for the child).

## Chapter 2 Principles for a safe adult-child relationship

1. The staff take care of your safety during your stay at the Museum, are attentive to health and life-threatening situations and check your well-being.
2. The staff are constantly expanding their knowledge and improving their skills in order to provide you with help and support appropriate to your individual needs.
3. The Museum's staff accompany you in difficult situations and support you in finding solutions.
4. The Museum's staff are attentive to a variety of situations, taking care to develop desirable attitudes in you and the ability to express emotions in a way that does not hurt others, to resolve conflicts in a respectful atmosphere.
5. All the Museum staff address you in a language that is understandable and empathetic.
6. Violent behaviour towards you, both physical (pulling, hitting, pushing) and verbal (abusing, calling you names, ridiculing, mocking, threatening and slandering) as well as any other forms of violating your personal boundaries are unacceptable.
7. It is unacceptable for any staff member to eroticise the relationship (flirting, ambiguous jokes, provocative looks, touching, sexual activities).
8. Discrimination is not allowed, e.g. on the basis of disability, religion, origin, material status, appearance or learning progress.

9. It is forbidden for the Museum's staff member to make contact with you by accepting or sending invitations on social media or communicating via social networks.
10. You are reinforced for positive behaviour through verbal rewards (individual praise, praise in the presence of the children).
11. Inappropriate behaviour is discussed directly with you in each case.

**If you notice any inappropriate behaviour towards you or another person from any Museum's staff member, report it to the management or another trusted adult around you as soon as possible.**

## **Chapter 3 Principles for a safe child-child relationship**

1. Each of you is responsible for creating a living atmosphere in the Museum that promotes tolerance, respect and empathy.
2. You are all obliged to observe the Museum's safety rules (do not endanger others).
3. You are attentive to the wellbeing and safety of others.
4. Your positive behaviour towards your peers is reinforced through verbal rewards (individual praise, praise in the presence of children).
5. Your inappropriate behaviour towards your peers is discussed directly with you in each case.
6. Conflicts between peers are resolved peacefully. You can always ask any Museum's staff member for support.
7. What is not allowed in interactions is:
  - the use of violence against any of you, in any form;
  - discrimination against another child on the basis of their disability, religion, background, material status, appearance or learning progress.
  - the use of vulgar and abusive language;
  - humiliating, offending, insulting other students;
  - making offensive remarks, including those with sexual overtones;
  - the use of intimidation and threats;
  - recording or taking pictures of other children, without obtaining permission.
  - possessing and sharing prohibited substances (energy drinks, alcoholic drinks, tobacco products, psychoactive substances).

**If you notice any inappropriate behaviour towards you or another person by peers, report it to the Museum's management, or another trusted adult around you as soon as possible.**

**REMEMBER! EVERYONE has the right to have their dignity respected.**

If you yourself are being harmed or witness another child being harmed, tell an adult, a member of Museum's staff, IMMEDIATELY.

**Helpline for Children and Young People: 116 111**

**24-hour helpline for children, young people and parents: 800 080 222**

**Antidepressant Forum Against Depression Phone: 22 594 91 00**