



Child Sponsorship Policy

1. Introduction

At Chaffinch, we are dedicated to making a positive and lasting difference in the lives of children in Kenya. Through our Child Sponsorship Programme, individuals can support a child's education, healthcare, and general well-being, empowering them to reach their full potential.

This policy outlines the key aspects of our Child Sponsorship Programme, including how donations are managed and the ways in which sponsors will receive updates and communications about their sponsored child.

2. How the Child Sponsorship Programme Works

Our Child Sponsorship Program allows sponsors to financially contribute towards the support and development of children in Kenya. Sponsorship helps provide access to education, health care, nutrition, and other essential needs.

3. Use of Donations

All donations made through the Child Sponsorship Programme are added to our general funds. This allows us to ensure that all children in the program, as well as the wider community, benefit from the contributions. By doing this, we can provide more consistent and sustainable support to all the children we serve.

While your sponsorship directly helps the child you are connected with, by providing them with all reasonable education and healthcare costs as well as social and emotional support, it also contributes to broader projects that benefit other children in the community, such as school improvements, healthcare initiatives, and the feeding programme.

4. Sponsor Benefits and Communication

As a sponsor, you will have the opportunity to build a meaningful connection with your sponsored child. We are committed to keeping you informed about the progress and development of the child you support.

You will receive the following:

- Sponsorship Card: Upon starting your sponsorship, you will receive a welcome pack that includes a card with the child's photograph, name, age, and details about their background and community.
- Quarterly Communications: Throughout the year, you will receive four messages from your sponsored child, which may include:
 - Personal letters.
 - Drawings or artwork created by the child.
 - Short videos of the child in their school or community.

- **School and Progress Reports:** You will receive copies of your sponsored child's school reports, highlighting their academic progress and achievements, as well as other relevant reports on their development.
- **Year-End Summary:** At the end of each year, we will send you a summary report detailing the impact of the Child Sponsorship Programme, along with an updated photograph of your sponsored child.
- **Opportunities for Communication:** Sponsors are encouraged to communicate with their sponsored child. You may send letters and cards at any time. We will facilitate the delivery of your communications to the child. There may also be opportunities to send small gifts when someone from Chaffinch is travelling to Kenya. Sadly, customs fees for mailed gifts often exceed the value of the gift and take funds away from our work with the children.

5. Communication Guidelines

To ensure that communication remains positive and culturally appropriate, we ask that sponsors follow these guidelines when writing to their sponsored child:

- Focus on encouraging and uplifting topics such as education, hobbies, and aspirations.
- Be mindful of cultural differences and avoid subjects that might be sensitive or inappropriate for the child's context.
- All letters and gifts will be reviewed by the Sponsorship Coordinator (UK) to ensure they meet these guidelines and comply with local customs and regulations.

6. Data Protection and Child Safeguarding

Chaffinch is committed to safeguarding the children in our care. We take the protection of children and their personal data seriously and comply with all relevant UK and Kenyan data protection laws, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We will only share necessary information about your sponsored child with you and will ensure that all personal information is handled securely. Sponsors are asked to respect the privacy of the child and their family and avoid oversharing of the child's details on social media or other public platforms.

7. Duration of Sponsorship

We encourage sponsors to commit to supporting their child for a minimum of one year. However, you are free to continue sponsorship for as long as you wish, and you may stop your sponsorship at any time.

If, for any reason, your sponsored child leaves the programme (e.g., due to moving away or completing their education), we will notify you and provide the opportunity to sponsor another child in need.

8. Transparency and Accountability

Chaffinch is committed to transparency and ensuring that all donations are used effectively. We will provide an annual report that shows how funds are being used in addition to the Year-End Summary of the sponsorship programme.

9. Contact Information

If you have any questions about this policy or your sponsorship, please contact:

Sponsorship Coordinator (UK)
Chaffinch

3 Spurr Court
York
YO24 3ND
Email: sponsorship@chaffinch.org.uk

This policy may be revised at any time with the agreement of a majority of the trustees.

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