



## **SJA SAFEGUARDING POLICY**

As a member of ABTA, the leading travel industry body, we fully recognise that the safeguarding of children is everyone's responsibility, and the travel industry must play their part in the safeguarding of children. As such ABTA members ensure that people working in the travel industry are well-informed, appropriately trained, and armed with the skills to ensure children are safeguarded.

The School Journey Association believes that it is unacceptable for a child to experience any kinds of exploitation or abuse and acknowledges our duty to safeguard children. We are committed to ensuring a safeguarding practice that complies with statutory responsibilities and best practice.

The welfare of children carries the utmost importance. - All children, regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, or beliefs, equally have the right to be safeguarded from all forms of abuse and harm.

At the School Journey Association, the safety of our customers is our top priority. We ensure that all the relevant health and safety checks have been made for accommodation, transport, and visits/excursions that we provide.

We are assured members of the School Travel Forum and adhere to their guidelines in ensuring that our school trips are safe and secure.

As members of ABTA, we promote their guidance in the '[travelling with children](#)' advice on the ABTA website. This is also helpful for teachers as it includes safety information about school trips and refers to the School Travel Forum for specific details. SJA offers complete financial security through our ABTA and ATOL bonding.

Our customers' safety is without any doubt our top priority, our accommodation, visits, and transport options will have already been safety audited and risk assessed prior to your trip. In addition, our 24-hour emergency support is always available during your trip.

To ensure our health and safety standards are maintained, we receive regular guidance and updates from the STF as an assured member. In addition, our own Safety Management System is in place to ensure that we adhere to strict and well-regulated safety standards.

We are also guided by current FCDO or Government advice regarding safety requirements or any restrictions that may be applicable for our destinations due to Covid-19 or any other incident that may affect the well-being of our school groups.

**Reviewed and updated January 2023**