

Educational Sponsorships

Guideline Mail Correspondence

Important information regarding child protection

Dear sponsor,

We are very pleased to welcome you as part of the sponsorship program of the Friends of Waldorf Education. On behalf of your godchild and the educational institution we want to thank you for your commitment.

The beauty of a sponsorship is that it allows godchildren and sponsors to get into contact and learn from each other about the respective cultures and lifestyles. This exchange is important to us and we specifically promote a regular letter correspondence between sponsor and sponsored child.

Nevertheless, it is extremely important to us to protect the children from any type of abuse and danger. Under no circumstances should sponsored children be influenced in their decision making and self-determination in a way that could harm them physically or mentally. Ensuring the protection of children is therefore the most important aspect of our sponsorship related tasks.

The Friends of Waldorf Education and the respective recipient school reserve the right to open letters from sponsors in advance and to decide on whether the letter can be forwarded to the respective child. This measure is important to ensure that the content is acceptable for children and adolescents and in no way inappropriate or even damaging.

The letters and accompanying photos are briefly reviewed by our staff to ensure that the content is culturally acceptable in recipient countries. For a receiver in western culture some pictures may appear quite harmless, while photos of scantily clad people, for example, might violate religious or moral values in other countries. If contents of the letters or attached photos are deemed inappropriate and cannot be forwarded, we will inform our sponsors immediately to discuss further steps.

Please refrain from indicating your postal address and contact information in the context of the correspondence with your godchild. Otherwise it is impossible for us to ensure that this sensitive information does not fall into the wrong hands. We want to avoid that begging letters from foster families or unknown third parties are sent to sponsors directly.

Conversely, please refrain from asking your godchild for his or her private address. Correspondence with the sponsored children should always happen through the Friends of Waldorf Education and the respective school, so we can live up to our commitment to protect the children.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

f.michel@freunde-waldorf.de

Thank you for your understanding,

Kind regards,

Fabian Michel
Sponsorship Coordinator
Friends of Waldorf Education