

MODULE 3, LESSON 1

LEARNER’S HANDOUT

When Interacting with Children

Do	Don’t
Know your peacekeeping mission’s mandate and role in protecting children. Know which actors (e.g., for education, health, food, other) can help, if the mission cannot	Be discouraged if you cannot immediately help. If you report concerns, the responsible agencies can ensure that children are helped
Consider other options for community outreach aside from building schools and playing soccer	Engage in activities that may place children at risk, such as interactions at orphanages and schools, or in responses to poverty
Work with NGOs and local communities if you want to engage in community outreach activities with children	Be discouraged if you think the mission should do more. Your contribution to security is critical
Consider the possible consequences of your actions on the child. If you have doubts, ask the civilian Child Protection staff	Casually spend time or interact with local children
Explain to a child who asks you for money or work that you are not allowed to give money or work to children	Give children money or food, nor use children for any services or labour (e.g., cooking, cleaning, washing cars, etc.)
Report through the chain of command and to the civilian Child Protection staff or Child Protection Focal Points, if you see relevant violations	Have any sexual contact with children

A CHILD IS ANYONE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE

