

Blessing the Children International Technology Gifts Policy

Article I: Purpose

The Technology Gifts Policy was developed to prevent conflict or strife arising from siblings and other children living in the same household as a sponsored child receiving a technology gift. Receiving a gift of this nature can potentially cause discord, bickering and disunity stemming from feelings of envy, jealousy or hurt from the children not receiving such elaborate gifts from their own sponsors. The gift can also cause strife between the child and guardian because the child feels like the gift is theirs, given from their sponsor and therefore the guardian should have no right to take it away if the child is misbehaving or if the gift is causing discord amongst other children.

Article II: Definitions

A technology gift is defined as any gift that requires the use of electricity or batteries to operate. This includes but is not limited to MP3 Players, CD players, tape players, televisions, DVD players, VHS players, gaming systems, handheld gaming systems, laptops, tablets and computers.

Article III: Procedures

While Blessing the Children is working towards preventing conflict arising from one child receiving a technology gift while another does not, BCI encourages the use of technology and does advocate such gifts, when given in a proper manner.

The proper manner to donate a technology gift is to give it to the family unit as a whole, not to an individual child. All technology gifts should be addressed to the parent / guardian of the child in the house, including a note on the gift's intended use (e.g. "For Bereket to practice his English"). The guardian will then have control over the gift, allowing each child equal time according to behavior or attitude.

Article IV: Mailing

All donations and packages for children should be mailed directly to the Blessing the Children post office box in Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia. Outside shipping label should read:

Blessing the Children
Tadesse Gebreyes
PO Box 1410
Debre Zeyit, East Shoa
Ethiopia

Note inside the package should read: "For the guardian of 'child's name' to be used for 'child's name' to practice English, learn the alphabet, etc."

Due to the expensive nature of technology gifts, we ask that when sending such a gift the donor be prepared to reimburse BCI for the cost of taxes that may be incurred if the gift is flagged while going through customs. Please visit this website to get an idea of what the donor can expect to reimburse BCI for import taxes on technology gifts:

<http://www.erca.gov.et/images/Documents/Customs/Others/1457.pdf>