

The Advocacy Academy

Modern Slavery Statement

The Advocacy Academy stands against all forms of modern slavery and human trafficking. We believe that dignity, freedom, and fair work are fundamental human rights, and we are committed to challenging any systems that rely on exploitation, coercion, or hidden labour.

This statement sets out how we live out those commitments in our organisation and in the relationships we build through our work.

Our Commitment

The Advocacy Academy (TAA) is a home for youth organising in the UK. For us, this means we build the power of young people with lived experience of injustice to develop their own political identity, build a community rooted in joy and solidarity, and take action to address the most pressing issues of our time.

Our work is grounded in a simple belief: justice cannot exist where exploitation exists.

We are committed to:

- Acting with integrity, care, and accountability in all our relationships
- Challenging exploitative labour practices wherever we encounter them
- Being transparent about how we work and who we work with
- Creating safe, supportive environments for young people, staff, and partners

Our Structure and Operations

We organise with young people with lived experience of injustice to build collective power and drive systemic change.

Our work includes:

- Developing young leaders and organisers
- Supporting community organising and campaigning for change
- Building alliances and bringing new people into movements for justice
- Strengthening an organisation rooted in values, accountability, and care

Our Relationships & Supply Chains

We work with a small number of suppliers and partners, including:

- Trainers, facilitators, and consultants
- Venue and accommodation providers
- Creative, digital, and educational services
- Catering and event suppliers

We know that exploitation can exist anywhere in supply chains; even in sectors that appear low risk. Because of this, we try to work with people and organisations who share our values and commitment to fair work, dignity, and justice.

How We Act on Our Commitments

We take responsibility for how our money and relationships are used.

This means we:

- Work with partners who demonstrate fair and ethical labour practices
- Pay all staff and regular contractors at least the London Living Wage
- Build open relationships where concerns can be raised safely and without fear
- Listen seriously and act when something does not align with our values

Where We Stay Alert

While we consider our risk of modern slavery to be low, we do not treat any space as risk-free.

We stay attentive in areas such as:

- Event venues and catering
- Freelance and contracted facilitation work
- Print and production services
- Everyday operational supplies

We regularly reflect on and improve how we choose and work with suppliers.

Speaking Up and Safeguarding

We believe safety and accountability are collective responsibilities.

Our safeguarding systems ensure that concerns about exploitation, harm, or unethical practice can be raised safely and taken seriously. This includes internal reporting routes and direct access to senior leadership.

We commit to responding to concerns with care, urgency, and accountability.

Learning and Responsibility

We continue to deepen awareness of modern slavery and labour exploitation across our organisation by:

- Embedding ethical practice into recruitment and induction
- Providing ongoing safeguarding and values-based training
- Building a culture where responsibility is shared, not avoided

Keeping Ourselves Accountable

We know that commitments mean little without action.

Over the coming year, we will continue to:

- Strengthen how we assess and choose suppliers
- Review and improve our procurement practices
- Deepen our understanding of labour exploitation risks across our work

We treat this as ongoing political and organisational work-not a box-ticking exercise.

Closing Commitment

We are committed to building an organisation, and contributing to movements - that do not reproduce the harms we seek to end.

That means continuously asking ourselves not only *what we do*, but *how we do it*, and *at whose expense*.

This statement reflects our commitment to that ongoing work.