



Flying Dove Theatre Limited Safeguarding Policy Statement

Note: The terms 'child' and 'young person' describe any person under the age of 18. References to 'parents' should be read as parents and carers inclusively.

Our Statement

We believe **everyone** has a responsibility to promote the safeguarding and welfare of all children and young people. We will give equal priority to keeping all children safe placing their welfare of highest importance regardless of their age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. We will ensure all children:

- Have a positive and enjoyable experience of theatre and performing arts at Flying Dove Theatre in a safe and child centred environment.
- Are protected from harm whilst participating in classes or outside of the activity.

We acknowledge that some children, including disabled children or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

Our Policy

As part of our safeguarding policy we will:

- Prioritise the safety and welfare of children and young people.
- Listen, respect and value children and young people.
- Guarantee strong safeguarding provisions and procedures are put in place.
- Make certain that staff members and volunteers are aware of safeguarding procedures and understand their responsibility and role in safeguarding children and being able to identify and respond to signs of concerns such as neglect and/or abuse.
- Ensure proper steps are taken in the case of an incident or concern. Regardless of the level of the concern, appropriate action will be taken and the individual who has disclosed the concern will receive support.

- Make sure that all records of safeguarding concerns are kept securely and confidentially.
- Ensure that staff and volunteers are recruited safely, making sure that all necessary checks are made.
- Make sure that children, young people and their parents know where to go for help if they have a concern.
- Ensure there is a culture that, 'Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility'.
- Appoint a Safeguarding/Welfare officer.
- Highlight the importance of raising any concerns to a Safeguarding Officer and reporting concerns appropriately.
- Contact the police and emergency services in an emergency situation by calling 999.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Flying Dove Theatre. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the organisation.

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- Changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- As required by the local safeguarding partnership
- As a result of any other significant change or event

The policy was reviewed in December 2023

By D. Sanderson

Our Safeguarding/Welfare Officer

Daniella Sanderson
07753190768
daniella@flyingdovetheatre.com

Our deputy Safeguarding/Welfare Officer

Ashley Summerhayes
07784371542
ashley@flyingdovetheatre.com

In a safeguarding emergency, where a young person is at immediate risk of harm, call 999.