



Child Protection Policy and Guidance

This document sets out the Child Protection Policy and Guidance for “LA” which will be followed by all members of the group, including staff, volunteers and customers.

To promote best safeguarding practice during lessons, shows and rehearsals, we commit to:

- ensuring that **EVERY** teacher and helper (over 16 years old) has a valid DBS Certificate, undertaken and checked by us;
- ensuring that registers at each class are taken;
- ensuring that parents **SIGN** that they know and understand that we do **NOT** take responsibility for children in the waiting area before, after and between lessons;

“LA” knows that being a child/young person makes them vulnerable. The purpose of this Policy is to make sure that the actions of any adult in the context of the work carried out by us is transparent and to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children/young people.

If any parent or young person/child has any concerns about the conduct of any member of staff, this should be raised in the first instance with Louise Robertson or Sarah Strachan (the independent, Designated Safeguarding Officer (**DSO**)).

The DSO should then advise and continue with the procedure below. If the DSO is not contactable, then the member of staff should follow the procedure below.

This Policy is written in accordance with The Children’s Act 2004 and “Working Together to Safeguard Children” guidance 2015.

Principles upon which the Child Protection Policy is based.

- The welfare of a child or young person will always be paramount.
- The welfare of families will be promoted.
- The rights, wishes and feelings of children, young people and their families will be respected and listened to.
- Those people in positions of responsibility within “LA” will work in accordance with the interests of children and young people and follow the Policy outlined below.
- Those people in positions of responsibility within “LA” will ensure that the same opportunities are available to everyone and that all differences between individuals will be treated with respect.