

Theatre Club Kids (TCK) - Safeguarding Policy



The designated safeguarding person is Jessica Fricker.

Theatre Club Kids recognises that the welfare of children is of paramount importance. We have a responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of all children and young people we work with.

We believe that all children without exception have the right to protection from abuse, regardless of ethnicity, gender, disability, sexuality or beliefs and that no child or groups of children should be treated less favourably than others in being able to access the support and services to meet their needs.

All staff and volunteers have a duty never to subject a child to any form of harm and abuse. Children and parents/carers who attend Theatre Club Kids may view our policy and a copy will always be kept on the premises.

Overview of responsibilities

- Jessica (DSP) will ensure all staff and volunteers have a copy and understand our safeguarding policy. She will be responsible for the recording and monitoring of safeguarding issues and will report them, if deemed necessary, to the relevant authorities.
- All staff and volunteers have the responsibility to take reasonable steps to protect children and young people from harm and abuse while in our care. All concerns regarding safeguarding should be reported and discussed with the DSP
- All staff working at Theatre Club Kids are required to hold a valid DBS check.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people

Theatre Club Kids will do this by:

- Identifying and responding to concerns about a child or young person.
- Provide a happy and safe environment for learning.
- Supporting development in dance, drama and singing in a way that fosters a sense of belonging/sense of community/sense of self and a sense of independence.
- Supporting young people to communicate freely with us and providing them with the time and space to talk.
- Fostering an environment of trust and building appropriate professional relationships.

Consent and information sharing

Basic consent for day- to- day activities will be sought during registration procedures. This may involve consent for photographs to be taken or performances to attend. Additional consent will be sought for activities which fall outside this basic consent.

Before making a referral to social services, parents/carers must be informed of why the action is necessary and why consent is being sought. If consent is not given but level of concern means that social services must be informed, staff are able to do this without parent/carer's consent.

Consent from parents/carers should not be sought if

- Discussion with parents/carers could put child or other members of family at increased risk.
- The child is in immediate danger e.g. requires medical attention.
- Having discussion with parents/carers may put member of staff at risk.

Child Protection

All staff and volunteers should be able to recognise and know how to act upon evidence that a child's health or development is being impaired or the child is likely to suffer significant harm. All concerns must be shared with DSP who has the responsibility to act upon these concerns.

Abuse and mistreatment of a child might be physical, emotional, sexual or neglect. It may be perpetrated by family or adults known to them or by other children. Abuse might also occur through social media.

Seeking Medical Attention

If a child has a physical injury and there are concerns of abuse, medical attention should be sought immediately. All concerns should be shared with ambulance and medical staff and then must be reported to social services.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

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Signed:

Jess Fricker - 1st September 2025

Appendix A

Harm or potential harm may come to you in any of the following ways:

- Information given to you by the child, his/her friends, family member or close associate to the child's behaviour may become different from usual, bizarre or acting out harmful situations.
- An injury may arouse suspicion if it does not correspond to explanation given for injury/ different individuals give different explanations/child becomes anxious when discussing it.
- Suspicion is raised as a picture built up over time. ○ A child or young person is known to have had contact with an individual/s that have been identified as presenting a significant risk to children.

Appendix B

Managing a disclosure from a child or young person:

- Listen carefully ○ Do not ask leading or probing questions. ○ Never stop and individual who is talking freely.
- Never promise to keep a secret.
- Be reassuring that they have done the right thing in disclosing. ○ Following the discussion, record it then pass it on to DSP.