Theatre Club Kids - Child Protection Policy



Theatre Club Kids is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people.

It recognises its responsibility to take all reasonable steps to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. Theatre Club Kids acknowledges its duty to act appropriately to any allegations, reports or suspicions of abuse.

All staff and volunteers will endeavour to work together to encourage the development of an ethos which embraces difference and diversity and respects the rights of children, young people and adults.

Theatre Club Kids recognises its duty of care under the Children and Young Persons Act 1963. Children Performances and Activities Regulations 2014. The Children Act 1989, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013

Theatre Club Kids believe that:

- We have a responsibility to safeguard the welfare of the children we teach and to ensure that appropriate policies and procedures are in place so that a child may take part in classes and shows within a safe and secure environment.
- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity, have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- All members and staff of Theatre Club Kids should be clear on how to respond appropriately.

Theatre Club Kids will ensure that:

- We provide an environment in which children are safe, can learn and develop at their own pace and are aware that there are adults in whom they can trust.
- All children will be treated equally and with respect and dignity.
- The welfare of each child will be put first.
- Enthusiastic and constructive feedback will be given rather that negative criticism.
- Bullying will not be accepted or condoned.
- Report any incidents of extremist views to the appropriate authorities.
- All staff and volunteers provide a positive role model for dealing with other people.
- Action will be taken to stop any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour.
- It will work with the venues it hires to provide a safe and secure environment.
- It will endeavour to keep up to date with changes in legislation and policies for the protection of children and health and safety.
- It will hold a register of every child involved and will retain a contact name and number close at hand in case of emergencies.

Theatre Club Kids has a designated Child Protection officer, Jessica Cooper, who oversees ensuring that the child protection policy and procedures are adhered to.

In implementing this child protection policy, Theatre Club Kids will:

- Communicate to all staff/volunteers their legal and moral responsibility to protect children and young people from harm, abuse and exploitation.
- Communicate to all staff/volunteers their responsibility to work to the standards detailed herein and the need to always work towards maintaining high standards of practice in the protection of children.
- Ensure that all staff/volunteers understand their duty to report any concerns that arise about a child or young person to the school's named person.
- Ensure that the school's named person understands his/her responsibility to refer any child protection concerns to the statutory child protection agencies. i.e. police and/or Children's Social Care.
- Ensure that any procedures relating to the conduct of staff/volunteers are implemented in a consistent and equitable manner.
- Ensure that children/young parents and their parents or carers have access to and can comment upon this child protection policy and its procedures.

This policy will be regularly monitored by manager and staff of school and will be subject to annual review.

These procedures will be reviewed annually.

Signed:

Jess Fricker - 1st September 2025