



Talisman Theatre and Arts Centre

Child Safeguarding Procedures

APPENDIX 1 – Adult Volunteer Briefing

Background:

- We have a Duty of care under legislation: Children and Young Persons act 1933, 1963; Protection of Children Act 1999 and The Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014
- A child is a person under the age of 18.
- The Talisman is required to have a written Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures. We have adopted the national “standard” as produced by NODA. A copy is on the Notice Board at the foot of the studio stairs. These have been approved by Warwick Council.

Children and Young Persons in our care are:

- Provided with opportunities to take part in our activities and to develop their skills
- Treated with respect and dignity eg: Listened to; Consulted on things which affect them; Given feedback which is constructive rather than negative; Children and Young People are nurtured and able to thrive
- Protected from physical, sexual and emotional abuse and from neglect eg: Risk assessment is carried out to protect them from physical harm; Rules are in place to prevent unsupervised contact; Bullying, prejudice, favouritism are not tolerated; basic needs such as food, drink and rest time are available

In order to fulfil our Duty of Care:

- We expect all adults to act as Positive Role Models
- We have appointed a dedicated Child Protection Officer (CPO), Corrina Jacob – her contact details are in the Policy document on the notice board at the foot of the Studio stairs
- We have Chaperones who are subject to DBS Checks and who are approved by Warwick Council
- Children must be supervised at all times whilst in the Theatre’s care
- We will prevent unsupervised contact of adults with children wherever possible and anyone who is likely to have unsupervised contact will require DBS checking

What you must do as an Adult Volunteer:

- Take the interests and wellbeing of children and young people into account in all that you do involving them
- Respect the rights, wishes and feelings of the children and young people with whom we work
- Take all reasonable, practicable steps to protect them from physical, emotional and sexual abuse and from neglect
- Understand that you are in a position of trust and be committed to promoting the welfare of our children and young people.
- Act as a role model and behave appropriately at all times
- Follow our Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures
- You must avoid situations where you would be alone with a child

What you must NOT do as an Adult Volunteer:

- Adults must not have physical contact with children ie: touching, unless absolutely essential to the activity eg: applying makeup or first aid - and the purpose of any such contact will be explained to, and agreed by, the child beforehand. Physical contact must only take place when a second adult is present. The only exception is in the very rare case where intervention is required to protect a child from immediate danger of harm. Remember that this is for your protection too.
- Taking photographs or videos which include children is not permitted

Remember:

- Our Policy and Procedures are a framework: of themselves they do not protect children
- Only when we have an environment where both children and adults feel comfortable to promptly come forward and report their concerns can we maintain a safe Theatre
- We do not expect crew members to become Child Safeguarding Inspectors – but we do expect them to be observant, to keep their eyes and ears open AND to report anything which causes them concern, however slight it may appear

Talisman Theatre and Arts Centre is the trading name of Talisman Theatre Company CIO.

Reg. Charity 1164913 Barrow Road, Kenilworth. CV8 1EG 01926 856548

Updated January 2021



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If you have a Safeguarding concern:

- If immediate action is required to prevent actual harm – take action
- If you have a safeguarding concern, or if a child or young person reports a concern to you, you must immediately consult and follow the instructions laid out in our Child Safeguarding Procedures.

Thank you for helping to make our Theatre a place where children and young people are made welcome and kept safe.

Dik Thacker Vice-Chair version 6 January 2021

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