



Talisman Theatre and Arts Centre

Child Safeguarding Policy

The Talisman Theatre Company recognises its duty of care under the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 & 1963, the Protection of Children Act 1999 and the Children (Performances and Activities) Regulations 2014.

The society recognises that child abuse exists and can take many forms including physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and physical neglect. The society is committed to procedures which protect children from harm and enable them to thrive whilst taking part in the activities of the society. These procedures are documented in the "Talisman Theatre Child Safeguarding Procedures" which should be read in conjunction with this Policy.

- A Child is a person who has not yet reached their 18th Birthday.
- A Child Performer requires a Performance Licence until the last Friday in June of the academic year in which they attain their 16th birthday.
- The Safeguarding Policy and Procedures are designed to protect both Children and Adults engaged in the society's activities.

The society believes that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs 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 employees of the society should be clear on how to respond appropriately if they have a child safeguarding suspicion or if a child takes them into their confidence about possible abuse.

The society will ensure that:

- All children will be treated with respect and dignity.
- The duty of care to children will always be put first and all relevant legislation will be complied with.
- A balanced relationship based on mutual trust will be built which empowers children to share in the decision-making processes which affect them.
- Enthusiastic and constructive feedback will be given rather than negative criticism.
- Bullying will not be accepted or condoned.
- Action will be taken to stop any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour.
- All adult members of the society will provide a positive role model for dealing with other people.
- It will keep up-to-date with Health and Safety legislation.
- It will keep itself informed of changes in legislation and policies for the protection of children.
- It will undertake relevant development and training.
- It will ensure that the required licensing and criminal record checking is carried out for Chaperones and other adults who supervise children.
- It will hold a register of every child involved in the activities of the society and will retain a contact name and telephone number close at hand in case of emergencies.

The society has a dedicated Child Safeguarding Officer who is in charge of ensuring that the child safeguarding policy and procedures are adhered to. That person's name is Corrina Jacob and she can be contacted on Tel: 01926 511922 Mobile: 07913 667504 Email: secretary@talismantheatre.net
In Corrina's absence, contact the Chairperson, Nigel Elliott Tel: 01926 859061 Mobile: 07795 672880 Email: nigel.w.elliott@btopenworld.com

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

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