

Sole Purpose Productions

Child Protection Policy

Sole Purpose Productions is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for children and young people involved in any of its activities. We recognise the unique status of children and young people and seek to ensure that they are respectfully treated as individuals, and have a right to be recognised, listened to and be taken seriously. All workers within the Company, paid and voluntary, accept that the welfare of the child is paramount.

We do this by:

- Recognizing that all children of any gender, age, stage of development, religion, culture or race, have the right to freedom from abuse.

- Appointing a Designated Officer who undertakes appropriate training and who takes specific responsibility for child safety and acts as the main point of contact for parents, children and outside agencies.

- Ensuring that all our staff, associates, partners and volunteers are carefully selected, understand their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding, and accept responsibility for helping to prevent the abuse of children in their care.

- Responding swiftly and appropriately to all suspicions or allegations of abuse, and providing parents and children with the opportunity to voice any concerns they may have.

- All allegations of abuse are taken seriously and responded to appropriately, without causing any distress to the child or young person.

- Ensuring access to confidential information is restricted to the Designated Officer or the appropriate external authorities.

- Reviewing the effectiveness of our Child Protection Policy annually, and that it is endorsed and approved by the Board of Governors.

- Where we work with children and young people through a host organisation such as a school, that has the primary contact and relationship with parents/carers, our Child Protection Policy and processes may be mediated through that host organisation.

- The definition of ‘child’ or ‘young person’ relates to anyone under the age of 18, and also to those above the age of 18 who are vulnerable for reasons of mental and physical ability.

-This Child Protection Policy operates within the wider Safeguarding Policy for Sole Purpose Productions. The Safeguarding Policy implements procedures covering:

Roles and Responsibilities

Recruitment and training of staff, volunteers and associates

Regulated roles, activity and circumstances

Reporting and responding to allegations

Equal Opportunities

Child Protection

Code of Behaviour

Confidentiality, complaints and grievances

Dissemination of images

Copies of the Safeguarding Policy are available on request.

Designated Officer

Patricia Byrne, Artistic Director

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These Safeguarding statements, policies and procedures were approved and adopted by the Board of Sole Purpose Productions on 15^h March 2016.

Signed copies available on request.

