

Safeguarding Policies & Procedures

August 2020

The Purpose and Scope of this Policy Statement

Levy Little Theatre works with children as part of its activities. These include drama games and exercises, performing in plays and devising and bringing the community together through drama related activities.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who benefit from Levy Little Theatre's services.
- to provide parents, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy statement applies to anyone working on behalf of Levy Little Theatre.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation, policy and guidance is available from npcc.org/childprotection.

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience any kind of abuse.
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. and to practice in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all kinds of harm or abuse.
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication, needs or other issues.
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting children's welfare.

We will seek to keep children safe and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated child protection / safeguarding lead
- developing child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures which reflect best practice
- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families, and carers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- sharing information about child protection and safeguarding best practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support training and quality assurance measures
- implementing a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- recording and storing information professionally and securely.

Related Policies and Procedures**This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies and procedures, including:**

- Role description for the designated safeguarding officer
- Dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person
- Managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- Recording concerns and information sharing
- Child protection records retention and storage
- Code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Behaviour codes for children and young people
- Photography and sharing images guidance
- Safer recruitment
- Online safety
- Anti-bullying
- Managing complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and safety
- Induction, training, supervision and support
- Adult to child supervision ratios

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Contact Details

Nominated Child Protection Lead

Name: Gemma North

Phone/email: gemma@levylittletheatre.com

Deputy Child Protection Lead(s)

Name: Chris Brett

Phone/email: chris@levylittletheatre.com

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.