

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The Junior Arts Festival (JAF) is concerned about the welfare and safety of all its participants and will do everything possible to create an ethos in which children feel secure.

This Policy relates to children under the age of 18 years and those vulnerable adults of any age who are identified to the Organisers prior to their arrival at the Festival.

The JAF will ensure that

- All members of the JAF who will wear identifying badges, are aware of the Child Protection Policy procedure and can be approached to direct any child or adult with a problem to a senior member who will offer assistance.
- Appropriate support is provided to all members of the team.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- This policy is provided to inform and involve parents/guardians/carers and teachers in order to ensure as far as it is reasonable practical, a safe environment at the Festival.
- Where parents/guardians/carers are not personally attending with their children. JAF draws their attention to all aspects of this Child Protection Policy and requires them to be satisfied that their children will be accompanied to the Festival adequately supervised by responsible adults acting on their behalf.
- This Policy makes it clear that JAF expects parents/guardians to be responsible for ensuring that performers under 18 have adequate supervision at all times in dressing rooms and front of house areas.
- Once in the wings of the stage, JAF personnel will supervise performers.

PROCEDURES

- Where children or adults express problems or concerns, these will be documented and dated. The JAF organiser will decide what action needs to be taken and may seek advice from appropriate agencies. Guidelines on confidentiality will be observed.
- The JAF organiser will make brief notes as soon as possible after any incident and retain these, confidentially and securely, for future reference.

IMPLEMENTATION

- This Child Protection Policy appears in your programme and will be displayed on a notice board in the theatre.
- We will regularly review our policy in line with legislation and good working practices.

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