



Wadhurst Dramatic Club

Safeguarding Policy Statement

Approved by WDC Committee (July 2019)

THE PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THIS POLICY DOCUMENT

Wadhurst Dramatic Club (WDC) works with children, young people and vulnerable adults and their families as part of its normal activities. These include drama productions, workshops, rehearsals and social events. The purpose of this policy statement is:

- To protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who participate in the WDC's services and activities. (This includes visiting children of participating adults).
- 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 WDC, including officers of the club, committee members, sub-committee co-ordinators, volunteers and associates across all areas, any temporary staff and students. (**Note:** *This policy should be read alongside the latest WytKidz policy on Safeguarding and Child Protection*)

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This WDC policy has been drawn up on the basis of the latest legislation and guidance that seeks to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults in the UK. A summary of key legislations and guidance is available from the NSPCC (www.nspcc.org.uk/childprotection)

WDC RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMMITMENTS

We believe that children, young people and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind, and that we have a responsibility to promote their welfare at all times.

We shall keep them safe and to run our club and practise in a way that protects them.

We believe their welfare is paramount and that all children, young people and vulnerable adults – regardless of age, disability, race, religion/belief, sex/sexual orientation/gender assignment - have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.

We acknowledge that some individuals may be additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.

We recognise that working in partnership with parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. We will always strive to keep them safe by:

- (i) Valuing, listening and respecting them
- (ii) Appointing the following key positions within our club:
 - a nominated child protection/safeguarding lead



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- a named deputy to the child protection/safeguarding lead
 - a lead officer of the club for child protection/safeguarding.
- (iii) Developing child protection/safeguarding policies and procedures, which reflect the latest best practice and subject to regular review and update
- (iv) Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, involving parents, families and carers as appropriate
- (v) Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying culture and environment, and have policies and procedures in place to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- (vi) Developing and implementing an effective online e-safety policy
- (vii) Sharing information about child protection and safeguarding best practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers through leaflets and 1:1 discussions
- (viii) Ensuring the recruitment of any staff or volunteers is undertaken safely and that appropriate checks are undertaken
- (ix) Providing effective oversight and management of any staff or volunteers
- (x) Implementing a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- (xi) Using documented procedures to manage any allegation against staff or volunteers
- (xii) Ensuring WDC has appropriate and effective measures in place to manage any complaints or concerns
- (xiii) Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for children, young people and adults (including staff and volunteers) by undertaking health and safety measures required by law and regulatory guidance
- (xiv) Ensuring that all personal information (both manual and electronic) is held securely in accordance with GDPR.

RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

This policy statement should be read alongside our other policies and procedures, including those covering:

- Chaperoning including adult:child supervision ratios (see Annex I) – *included here*
- Photography and image publishing and sharing (see Annex II)
- Anti-bullying (see Annex III)
- Raising Concerns/whistle-blowing (see Annex IV)
- Disclosure and Barring Services (see Annex V)
- Managing allegations/complaints against officers, associates and volunteers (see Annex VI).



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CONTACT DETAILS

WDC Nominated Child Protection/Safeguarding Lead:

Name:	Marianne Johnson
Position:	WDC Chair
Email:	
Tel:	

Deputy Child Protection/Safeguarding Lead:

Name:	Jane Austin
Position:	WDC Secretary
Email:	
Tel:	

Lead Officer for Child Protection/Safeguarding:

Name:	Amanda Dann
Position:	WytKidz Group Leader/WDC Committee Member
Email:	
Tel:	

We are committed to reviewing this policy and our practice annually:

Version:	1.0 Issued
Date of Approval:	15 July 2019
Date of Next Review:	June 2020

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Senior Officer for Child Protection/Safeguarding)