

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

FOR JACK'S THEATRE SCHOOL

PRINCIPALS

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this policy as:

- ✓ Protecting children from maltreatment;
- ✓ Preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- ✓ Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
- ✓ Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility: for services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part; and
- ✓ A child-centred approach: for services to be effective they should be based on a clear understanding of the needs and views of children.

In the event of disclosure from a child or parent:

- Children have a right to be safe and should be protected from all forms of abuse and neglect;
- The welfare of the child is paramount and delay is likely to prejudice the welfare of the child (CA89, s1);
- ✓ It is better to help children as early as possible, before issues escalate and become more damaging;
- ✓ Children and families are best supported and protected when there is a coordinated response from all relevant agencies.
- ✓ Call Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01709 336080 and fill out form.

Signed

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CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

FOR JACK'S THEATRE SCHOOL DETAIL

Key documents with which this policy is in accordance:

- ✓ Keeping Children Safe in Education, DFE 2015
- ✓ Working Together to Safeguard Children, DFE 2015
- ✓ What to do if you're worried a child is being abused, DFE 2015
- ✓ Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services, DFE 2015
- ✓ SSCB Child Protection & Safeguarding Procedures Manual
- ✓ Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board Procedures Manual
- ✓ Early Years Foundation Stage, DFE 2014
- ✓ Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006

Context

- ✓ This Policy is used in accordance with locally agreed inter-agency procedures, and specifically in accordance with policies and guidelines laid down by the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board.
- ✓ Jack's Theatre School recognises the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children and young people. We acknowledge that children and young people can be the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect. Jack's Theatre School has adopted the procedures set out in this document (hereafter "the policy").
- ✓ Jack's Theatre School is committed to the spiritual well-being of the children in its care.
- ✓ Jack's Theatre School is committed to the children and young people in its care, to protect and safeguard them as well as promoting their welfare and protection.
- ✓ Jack's Theatre School recognise that it is unacceptable for those in a position of trust to engage in any behaviour which would be considered abusive. No Jack's Theatre School staff will engage in any such behaviour at any time.
- ✓ Jack's Theatre School is committed to safe recruitment, supervision and training for teachers, parents and other adults who work in the school, including details of how the local Safeguarding Children Board operates.
- ✓ Jack's Theatre School will support those affected by abuse and will follow procedures laid out in the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board for dealing with concerns about abuse.
- ✓ Jack's Theatre School recognises the need for good links with statutory and voluntary child protection agencies.
- ✓ Jack's Theatre School will regularly review the published policy and guidelines.

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✓ Jack's Theatre School will ensure all workers will be appointed, trained, supported and supervised in accordance with nationally published guidelines (e.g. DfE, DBS NCTL) and Chaperone Licences

Responding to allegations of abuse

- ✓ Under no circumstances should any member of the school community carry out their own investigation into allegation or suspicion of abuse. The person in receipt of allegations or suspicions of abuse will do the following:
 - ✓ Concerns must be reported as soon as possible to Mrs O Egan
 - ✓ Allegations against a staff member should be reported to Mrs O Egan.
 - ✓ Allegations against Mrs O Egan should be reported directly to Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01709 336080.
 - ✓ Suspicions must not be discussed with anyone other than those nominated above. A written record of the concerns should be made and kept in a secure place.
 - ✓ The role of the Mrs O Egan is to collate and clarify the precise details of the allegation or suspicion and pass this information on to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub.
 - ✓ Jack's Theatre School acknowledges the right of any individual as a citizen to make a direct referral to the child protection agencies or seek advice from the Rotherham Safeguarding Childrens Board.
 - ✓ If Mrs O Egan has not responded appropriately, or if there is a disagreement then the Chair of Governors should be contacted or direct contact with a relevant outside agency may be made.

Allegations of physical injury or neglect

- ✓ If a child has a physical injury or symptom of neglect, the DSGL / Deputy DSGL will:
 - ✓ Contact Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub for advice in cases of deliberate injury, if concerned about a child's safety or if a child is afraid to return home.
 - ✓ Will not tell parents or carers unless advised to do so having contacted Social services.
 - ✓ Seek medical help if needed urgently, informing the doctor of any suspicions.
 - ✓ For lesser concerns, (e.g. poor parenting), encourage parent / carer to seek help, but not if this places the child at risk of injury.
 - ✓ Where the parent / carer is unwilling to seek help, offer to accompany them. In cases of real concern, if they still fail to act, contact Social Services.
 - ✓ Seek and follow the advice given by Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board if unsure whether or not to refer a case to Social services.

Signed

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Allegations of sexual abuse

- ✓ In the event of allegations or suspicions of sexual abuse, Mrs O Egan will:
 - ✓ Contact the Social Services Department Duty Social Worker for children and families or Police Child Protection Team direct. They will NOT speak to the parent / carer or anyone else.
 - ✓ Seek and follow the advice given by the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board if, for any reason they are unsure whether or not to contact Social Services / Police.

Missing Children

 ✓ Jack's Theatre School recognises our responsibility to report 'missing children' to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub

Parental Concerns

 ✓ Jack's Theatre School recognises that parents may have concerns about their own or other parents' children, we take these concerns seriously. Any parent who has a concern can contact Mrs O Egan on 0777 958 2155 jackstheatreschool@gmail.com

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A referral should be made to MASH when:

- ✓ A child or young person makes a clear allegation of abuse;
- ✓ A child has been abandoned;
- ✓ Further concerns have arisen in relation to an open case to Children's Social Care;
- ✓ Concerns of significant harm have risen for a child receiving a service as a Child in Need;
- ✓ Further concerns have arisen of increased or additional risk to a child currently subject to a Child Protection Plan;
- ✓ A child sustains an injury and there is professional concern about how it was caused;
- ✓ There are any circumstances which suggest that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer Significant Harm;
- An unborn child may be at risk of significant harm for more information see Safeguarding Unborn and Newborn Babies Procedure and Concealment and Denial of Pregnancy Procedure;
- ✓ A non-mobile infant sustains any injury, however slight, without an adequate accidental explanation;
- ✓ A member of the public makes an allegation that someone has abused a child;
- ✓ Professional concern exists about abuse or neglect, despite no allegation being made;
- ✓ A child has been made the subject of an Emergency Protection Order or a Police Protection Order;
- ✓ Concerns have arisen for a child who is the subject of a Supervision Order or Care Order;
- ✓ Despite professional intervention, either on a single agency basis or as part of early help intervention, because of suspected neglect or abuse there is concern that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm or requires additional support – see Practice Guidance: Significant Harm - The Impact of Abuse and Neglect for more information;
- There are concerns that a child or young person is being sexually exploited for more information see Action Following Referral of Safeguarding Children Concerns Procedure, Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation Procedure;
- ✓ A child is reported missing from home or care and there are additional concerns about their vulnerability – for more information see Safeguarding Children and Young People who go Missing from Home and Care;
- ✓ There are concerns a child may be harmed because of use of technology or social media

 for more information see E-Safety: Safeguarding Children Exposed to Harm through
 the Digital Media;
- ✓ Concern exists about a child having contact with a person who may pose a risk, or potential risk, to children (see Individuals who Pose a Risk to Children Procedure;
- ✓ A child is being denied access to urgent or important Medical Assessment or services;
- ✓ There are suspicions that a child might be harmed because of fabricated or induced illness (see Protocol for Safeguarding Children in Whom Illness is Fabricated or Induced;

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- ✓ A child is at risk of being subjected to illegal procedures, for example:
 - ✓ Safeguarding Girls and Young Women at Risk of Abuse through Female Genital Mutilation Procedure;
 - ✓ Safeguarding Children and Young People from Forced Marriage Procedure;
 - ✓ Safeguarding Children and Young People from Honour Based Violence Procedure;
- There are grounds for concern that a person may be a victim of human trafficking (see Safeguarding Children who may have been Trafficked from Abroad Procedure and National Referral Mechanism: guidance for child first responders (Home Office, August 2013)).
- ✓ A child is at risk or vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism for more information see Supporting Children and Young People Vulnerable to Violent Extremism Procedure;
- ✓ A child is at risk of being harmed through experiencing or seeing or hearing the illtreatment of another, e.g. through Domestic Abuse;
- ✓ A child is at risk of being harmed because of concerns about their parents' mental health see - Safeguarding Children at Risk where a Parent has Mental Health Problem Procedure;
- Either an adult or a child makes allegations of non-recent abuse, for more information see - Safeguarding Children and Young People Involved in Organised or Multiple Abuse, and other Complex Investigations Procedure.

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Referrals should be made to:

- ✓ The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) which is located at Riverside House and can be contacted between 8.30 am – 5.00pm, Monday – Thursday & 8.30 - 4.30pm Friday on 01709 336080 MASH-Referral@rotherham.gov.uk
- ✓ Outside of these hours, concerns can be referred to the MASH by phoning the Out of Hours Team on the same number - 01709 336080.
- ✓ If the concern about the child relates to possible criminal activity:
- ✓ Call South Yorkshire Police on 999 if it is an ongoing crime or emergency;
- ✓ or 101 in all other cases.
- ✓ If the contact or referral is about a child who already has social worker involvement, then please contact the social worker directly for advice. If you don't know who the social worker is, contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).
 - ✓ More info at http://rotherhamscb.proceduresonline.com/

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We also abide by principals from the IDTA:

- 1. It is the policy of the school to provide efficient, up-to-date, enjoyable and safe instruction in dance to all pupils who enrol in the school or join in the classes or activities.
- 2. The premises and equipment will be checked regularly for any defects or faults that exist or may have developed which might present hazards to any attending the premises.
- 3. The premises will be cleaned regularly to prevent any hazard to health from accumulated dirt or rubbish.
- 4. All instruction will be geared to the previous experience and abilities of the pupil(s) and no person will be required to perform movements beyond their intrinsic capabilities.
- 5. Staff will be sensitive to all pupils' religious beliefs and culture.
- 6. No energetic instruction will be given without pupils undergoing a "warm-up" session, and after an energetic session completing a "warm-down" session.
- 7. Smoking is not permitted on site.
- 8. A day book will be kept to allow records to be kept of any incident in the school, injuries of any nature to staff or pupils and the dates when fire extinguishers, fire alarms and so on have been serviced.
- 9. No Infant or Junior pupil will be allowed to leave the school premises until collected by a parent, guardian or other adult authorised to do so by a parent or guardian.
- 10. A member of staff will remain on the premises until all pupils have left.
- 11. No pupil under age 18 will be driven home by a member of staff in his/her car without the permission of a parent or guardian or in the event of an emergency.
- 12. Normally no member of staff will be alone with a young pupil for any substantial period of time without the consent of a parent or other authorised person.
- 13. If appropriate, changing facilities will be provided. Where possible parents should supervise their own children in the changing area otherwise supervision will not be by a single adult.
- 14. No child may be photographed or videoed without the consent of parent or guardian. Specifics of the use of such photos and videos must also be subject to consent of parents.
- 15. Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) / Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) checks to be made. For further information see following websites:
 - i. http://www.ddc.uk.net/IDTA/
 - ii. http://www.isa.homeoffice.gov.uk/
- 16. Only suitably trained persons will be employed in a teaching capacity while any student engaged to assist with teaching will only work under the supervision of a qualified member of staff. Assistants between 16 and 18 will be DBS checked, over 18s will be Registered Chaperones.
- 17. In the event of activities outside the school premises the instructors will regard themselves as being in "loco parentis" and, so far as applicable and within their control, apply the preceding and subsequent guide lines as if the event was in their own studio.

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- 18. Teachers will avoid any unnecessary physical contact with pupils. However parents should understand that some aspects of teaching involve some contact. Where it is necessary teachers will use the utmost discretion and, in any event, not do so without another adult in the room.
- 19. The school principal(s) will ensure that s/he and the members of staff are properly covered against incidents involving public liability and professional negligence insurance.
- 20. The school principal(s) undertake not to involve in misleading or false advertising.
- 21. No form of discrimination, by religion, colour, the child's background and so on will be tolerated in the school.
- 22. At all times, all staff will endeavour to keep the highest standards of instruction and behaviour. The school principals retain the right to discharge from the school any pupil who persistently disrupts the tuition, uses offensive language, or other anti-social behaviour.

Signed

Date.....