

North West Drama Safeguarding Policy

Last updated: 1st September 2021

by M Wardle (Creative Producer) North West Drama

This policy to all staff, volunteers, board members and anyone working on behalf of North West Drama Services Ltd.

The purpose of this policy is:

- *to protect the children/ young people who work with North West Drama Services;*
- *to provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principals that guide our approach to safeguarding.*

North West Drama Services Ltd believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people we work with, and to help keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn upon on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children and young people, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention on the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- General data Protection Regulation 2018
- Relevant government guidance on safeguarding of children

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity have a right to equal protection from all types of harm and 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, school staff, parents and carers is essential to promoting young people's welfare.

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

- valuing them, listening to them and respecting them
- adopting child protection practices and adopting a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- ensuring our website is safe to use, and sharing information on e-safety with school staff as required
- providing effective supervision for staff and volunteers and a 'Responsible Person' procedure to ensure all issues are promptly reported
- Ensuring our staff have the relevant DBS clearance which is kept up to date, including regular update service checks where appropriate
- Sharing information about safeguarding with all volunteers and staff
- Sharing concerns with those who need to know; in particular, the nominated staff members for safeguarding in schools with which we work
- Ensuring we have received the expressed consent of parents/ carers for the use of personal data and audio/visual media of the children and young people with whom we work, for the fulfilment of our work and only storing or using this if consent has been granted
- Ensuring that digital communication with children and young people is carried out safely and appropriately, only where necessary

We are committed to reviewing our policy and procedure annually.

This policy was last reviewed on 1st September 2021

Written and reviewed by:

Matt Wardle, *Creative Producer*

Signed:



Date: 01.09.21