

Dorchester Community plays Association
Safeguarding Policy for children and vulnerable adults

The Dorchester Community Plays Association recognizes its duty of care under the Children and Young Persons Act 1963
Child (Performances) Regulations 1968,
Protection of Children Act 1999
Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000
Mental Capacity Act 2005
Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015

The Association recognizes that abuse can take many forms, whether it be physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse or neglect. The Association is committed to practice which protects children and vulnerable adults from harm. All members of the Association accept and recognize their responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause children and vulnerable adults harm

The Association believes that

The welfare of the child and vulnerable adult is paramount.

All children and vulnerable adults, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.

All suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

All members and employees of the Association should be clear on how to respond appropriately.

The Association will ensure that

- ◆ All children and vulnerable adults will be treated equally and with respect and dignity. •
- ◆ The duty of care to children and vulnerable adults will always be put first. •
- ◆ A balanced relationship based on mutual trust will be built which empowers the children and vulnerable adults to share in the decision making process. •
- ◆ Enthusiastic and constructive feedback will be given rather than negative criticism. •
- ◆ Bullying will not be accepted or condoned. •
- ◆ All adult members of the Association provide a positive role model for dealing with other people.
- ◆ Action will be taken to stop any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour. •
- ◆ It will keep up-to-date with health & safety legislation. •
- ◆ It will keep informed of changes in legislation and policies for the protection of children and vulnerable adults
- ◆ It will undertake relevant development and training. •
- ◆ It will hold a register of every child and adult involved with the Association and will retain a contact name and number close at hand in case of emergencies.

The society has safeguarding procedures which accompany this policy. This policy should also be read in conjunction with the society's Equal Opportunities Policy and Health & Safety Policy

The society has a dedicated Safeguarding Person, who is in charge of ensuring that safeguarding policy and procedures are adhered to. That person's name is ROSALIND THORPE and she can be contacted on 01305 259659

This policy will be regularly monitored by the Executive Committee of the Association and will be subject to annual review.

DATE: March 2019