

Safeguarding Policy



The scope of this policy statement

The Yorkshire Schools Dance Festival works with children between the ages of 4 and 19 as part of its activities. We also work with the children's families. We stage a community performance event with additional provision made for performer rehearsal and additional teacher development sessions.

The purpose of this policy statement

- to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive the Yorkshire Schools Dance Festival's services.
- to provide parents/carers/family, staff, 3rd party providers and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy statement applies to anyone working on behalf of Yorkshire Schools Dance Festival, including producers, freelance event managers, event team members, students, volunteers, 3rd party providers offering wider services and University of York staff involved in the delivery of the event.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children and vulnerable adults in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection>

We believe that:

- children, young people and vulnerable adults as defined by [The Police Act 1997](#) should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child and/or vulnerable adult is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or 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, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

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

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a nominated child protection/safeguarding lead and a deputy child protection/safeguarding lead

- developing child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures which reflect best practice
- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- implementing a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- recording and storing information professionally and securely.
- confirm in writing any child protection referrals to a statutory agency within 48 hours

Related policies and procedures

This policy statement is supported by additional organisational policies and procedures.

These include:

- Photography and image policy
- Supervision policy
- Behaviour code

Contact details

Nominated Safeguarding Lead:

Name: Colin Jackson

Phone/email: colin@yorkshireschoolsdancefestival.co.uk / 07714 576 198

Deputy Safeguarding Lead:

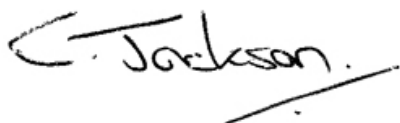
Name: Lauren Frost

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We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on: 31st May 2022. It will be audited annually and updated at intervals in-between

Signed:



Colin Jackson, Producer, Yorkshire Schools Dance Festival

Date: 31st May 2022