



Sodbury Players



Est. 1946

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Sodbury Players Drama Group (referred to as 'The Society' in this policy and accompanying procedures) recognises its duty of care under the Children and Young Person's Act 1963, the Child (Performances) Regulations 1968, the Protection of Children Act 1999 and the Criminal Justice and Court services Act 2000.

The Society recognises that abuse can take many forms, whether it be physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse or neglect. The Society is committed to a practice, which protects children from harm. The Society undertakes to ensure that all members of the Society recognise their responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues that cause children harm.

For the purposes of this policy The Society accepts the Education Act 2002 definition of the term 'child' as a person under 16.

The Society believes that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount;
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial, origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have a right to protection from abuse;
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately;
- Children who may be at risk of radicalisation should be protected. All suspicions of radicalisation to children in the society (either by a member or a source away from the society) will be reported as necessary.

The society will ensure that:

- All children will be treated equally and with respect and dignity;
- The welfare of each child will be put first;
- A balanced relationship based on mutual trust will be built which empowers children 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 Society should act as 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 and Safety legislation;
- It will keep informed of changes in legislation and policies for the protection of children;
- It will undertake relevant development and training;
- It will hold a register of every child involved with the Society and will retain a contact name and telephone number close at hand in case of emergencies.

The Society has Child Protection Procedures that accompany this policy. The Society also advises all members on Health and Safety issues.

The Society has a Child Protection Officer: Lucy Cragg, Contact Number: 07769 266421

This policy will be regularly monitored by the elected Committee of this Society and will be subject to annual review.

Last Review Date: September 2016

Next review date: September 2017