



SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT 2024/2025 ©

Players Drama School Limited works with children and families as part of its activities. These include:

- Performing arts workshops for children (School year R- 8) at Preston Playhouse Theatre.
- Performing arts workshops for teenagers (School year 9-13) at Preston College.
- Performing arts afterschool workshops (School year R-6) on Primary School premises.
- Holiday Clubs (Easter School/Summer School) at Preston College

The purpose and scope of this policy statement:

- Players Drama School Limited operates under a comprehensive safeguarding policy, a statement of which can be seen below.
- All staff undergo enhanced DBS checks.
- All teachers hold safeguarding level one certificates and keep up to date with regular safeguarding training.
- All teachers are qualified first aiders and closely follow our health and safety risk assessment.
- Upon sign up all Parents/Guardians **must** complete an extensive form, including three emergency contact details, one who is not in their immediate family, any medical or educational needs and an end of day safeguarding form. Pupils cannot attend Players Drama School unless this form has been completed. All teachers are informed of this information and managers have access to the information.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- To protect children and young people who attend Players Drama School Limited services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- To provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Players Drama School Limited, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, agency staff and students.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children and young people in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from nspcc.org.uk/childprotection.

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read in conjunction with our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents.

We believe that:

- Children and young people 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 children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we make
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to 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, extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

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

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them

- Appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding.
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers comply with our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.

Players Drama school personal policies and requirements:

Student showing signs of illness.

- Should a member of staff identify that a student is ill and unable to continue with the activities, they are to isolate the student from the rest of the class and inform the Manager at the earliest opportunity. Following this, the Parent/ Guardian will be contacted and requested to collect their child.
- Students should not return to Players Drama School until they are fit and healthy, this will be the responsibility of the Parent/ Guardian along with professional medical advice should it be required.

Student unexpectedly failing to attend a session

- As part of our terms and conditions a parent/guardian must inform Players Drama School Limited if their child is not attending a session.
- Should a student unexpectedly fail to attend a session at Players Drama School the Manager will firstly check if the child has been present in school, if the school office can confirm the child has been absent no further action will be taken.
- If the child has been in school the manager will make their way to the last known location of that child on the school premises (normally they are with their class teacher). However, if the child is not found following this the manager will then contact their primary parent/ guardian. Failing this, the secondary and emergency contact numbers will be called in order to identify that the child is safe and accounted for.
- If the Manager has not heard from any of the contacts or other parents that may know the child, the Manager must (along with the school staff) contact 101/999 and seek further assistance as a matter of urgency.

Student not being collected at the end of a session

- If a Parent/ Guardian fails to collect their child on time the following action should be taken:
- Wait 15 minutes.
- If nobody has arrived after 15 minutes, contact the primary parent/ guardian, followed by the secondary contact number and emergency number to identify the issue.
- Should none of the above answer, contact 101 and seek further assistance.

Contact details

Nominated child protection lead

Name: Rebecca Wilson
 Phone: 07356 342092
 Email: info@playersdramaschool.co.uk

Deputy child protection lead(s)

Name: Anna McCutcheon
 Phone: 07359 835521
 Email: anna@playersdramaschool.co.uk

Trustee/Senior lead for safeguarding and child protection

Name: Richard McCutcheon
 Phone: 07496 132759
 Email: rwmccutcheon@icloud.com

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

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

This policy was last reviewed on: 1st September 2024

Signed: R N Wilson Date: 01/09/24

Signed: R McCutcheon Date: 01/09/24