

Safeguarding Policy

Introduction

We care about the safety and wellbeing of everyone who works, volunteers, performs in or visits the Abbey Theatre or is involved in any other activities we may carry out.

We do not normally promote or have direct responsibility for any activities involving children or vulnerable adults ourselves, either inside or outside the theatre. The responsibility for safeguarding normally rests with the group who are putting on the activity which involves these children or vulnerable adults.

National and local regulations are in place which govern how these activities are managed. These are enforced by the Safeguarding and Child Protection teams at Warwickshire County Council. We cooperate fully with these teams and provide them with any information or documentation that they request.

Children in Entertainment

The majority of the Safeguarding concerns which occur in the Abbey Theatre are covered by the Children in Entertainment arrangements. These have specific requirements for:

- Licensing of children (certain exemptions apply)
- Chaperoning
- Record keeping

Requirements are detailed on Warwickshire County Council's web site www.warwickshire.gov.uk and search "Children in Entertainment".

Our responsibilities

- No child or vulnerable adult is admitted onto our premises unless that person is accompanied by a parent or carer, or is formally accepted into the charge of an appropriate adult (such as a teacher or group organiser).
- At no time does any member of staff or theatre volunteer take any responsibility for looking after any child or vulnerable person, either alone or with others.

- If any member of staff or volunteer sees any activity or practice taking place which causes concern this should be reported immediately to the Chair or Vice Chair of the Trustees. If neither of them can be reached concern should be reported to any other Trustee.
- If Nuneaton Arts or the Abbey Theatre are directly responsible for any activity involving children or vulnerable adults then all the appropriate licensing, chaperoning and record keeping will be carried out

Safeguarding Officer

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Trustee Board are the nominated Safeguarding Officers for Nuneaton Arts CIO