

## **Our Safeguarding Policy**

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers and members of Wigan Little Theatre.

### **The purpose of this policy:**

- To protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who participate in activities at Wigan Little Theatre
- To provide staff and volunteers with overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection;

Wigan Little Theatre believes that a child, young person or vulnerable adult should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults and to keep them safe. We are committed to practise in a way that protects them.

### **We recognise that:**

- The welfare of our volunteers and members is paramount,
- All members, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Working in partnership with children, young people, vulnerable adults, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting welfare.

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

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Supporting staff and volunteers through supervision, training and regular contact and reviews
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely, and sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with our staff and members
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, vulnerable adults, their families and carers appropriately
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against members 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
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our members by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance

## **Contact Details**

Designated Safeguarding Officer

Ryan Shaw

Phone: 07904023670

Chairman

Paul Dawson

Phone: 07718063516

Wigan Council Local Authority Designated Officer

(for concerns about professionals and volunteers who work with children or young people)

01942 486034

Wigan Council Children's Duty Team

(for concerns around family issues)

01942 828300

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

## **Legal Framework**

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Equality Act 2010

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

This policy was last reviewed on: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Signed: Ryan Shaw on 07904 023670 or Lauren Brown on 07411 275119.