



Online Safeguarding Policy

Policy Prepared: June 2020
Review: June 2021

The purpose of this policy statement

TramShed Theatre Company works with children, vulnerable adults and families as part of its activities. These include inclusive workshops, inclusive training, inclusive performances and online inclusive theatre activities.

The purpose of this policy statement is to:

- Ensure the safety and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount when adults, young people or children are using the internet, social media or mobile devices.
- Provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to online safety.
- Ensure that, as an organisation, we operate in line with our values and within the law in terms of how we use online devices.

The policy statement applies to all staff, volunteers, members and anyone involved in TramShed Theatre Company activities.

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. Further information can be gained from www.npscc.org.uk

We believe that:

- Children, young people and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind.
- Children and vulnerable adults should be able to use the internet for education and personal development, but safeguards need to be in place to ensure they are kept safe at all times.

We recognise that:

- The online world provides everyone with many opportunities; however it can also present risks and challenges.
- We have a duty to ensure that all children, young people and adults involved in our organisation are protected from potential harm online.
- We have a responsibility to help keep our members safe online, whether or not they are using TramShed Theatre's network and devices.
- All children and vulnerable adults, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, vulnerable adults and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare and in helping young people to be responsible in their approach to online safety.

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

- Appointing an online safety coordinator - Zac Hackett Artistic Director.
- Providing clear and specific directions to staff and volunteers on how to behave online through our behaviour code for adults.
- Supporting and encouraging the members using our service to use the internet, social media and mobile phones in a way that keeps them safe and shows respect for others.
- Supporting and encouraging parents and carers to educate their children/young people and do what they can to keep members safe online.
- Developing an online safety agreement for use with members and their parents/carers.
- Developing clear and robust procedures to enable us to respond appropriately to any incidents of inappropriate online behaviour, whether by an adult or a child/young person.
- Reviewing and updating the security of our information systems regularly
Ensuring GDPR and that usernames, logins, email accounts and passwords are used effectively ensuring personal information about the adults and children who are involved in our organisation is held securely.
- Ensuring that images of members and families are used only after their written permission has been obtained, and only for the purpose for which consent has been given.
- Providing supervision, support and training for staff and volunteers about online safety.
- Examining and risk assessing any social media platforms and new technologies before they are used within the organisation.

If online abuse occurs, we will respond to it by:

- Having clear and robust safeguarding procedures in place for responding to abuse (including online abuse).
- Providing support and training for all staff and volunteers on dealing with all forms of abuse, including bullying/cyberbullying, emotional abuse, sexting, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.
- Making sure our response takes the needs of the person experiencing abuse, any bystanders and our organisation as a whole into account.
- Reviewing the plan developed to address online abuse at regular intervals, in order to ensure that any problems have been resolved in the long term.

Related policies and procedures

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies and procedures, including:

Safeguarding & Child protection

- Procedures for responding to concerns about a child, young person or vulnerable adult's wellbeing.
- Dealing with allegations of abuse made against a child or young person.
- Managing allegations.
- Anti-bullying policy and procedures.
- Photography and image sharing guidance.

Created 4th June 2020

Zac Hackett



Artistic Director
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