



THE STANNINGTON PLAYERS CHILD PROTECTION POLICY [CPP]

The Stannington Players [TSP] Amateur Dramatic Society recognizes its duty of care to its junior members aged under 18 according to legislation including the Children and Young Persons Act 1963, the Child (Performances & Activities) Regulations 2014, the Protection of Children Act 1999 and the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000.

The society recognizes that abuse can take many forms, whether it is physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse or neglect and can occur on and offline. The society is committed to ensuring good safeguarding practice which protects children from harm. All members of the society accept and recognise their responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause children harm.

The society believes that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origins, religious beliefs or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- All members of the society should be clear on how to respond appropriately.

The society will ensure that:

- All children will be treated equally and with respect and dignity.
- The duty of care to children will always be put first.
- A balanced relationship based on mutual trust will be built which empowers the 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 will provide a positive role model for dealing with other people.
- Action will be taken to stop any inappropriate behaviour.
- It will keep up-to-date with health & 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 confidential register of every child involved with the society and will retain a contact name and number close at hand in case of emergencies.
- All members will observe our Code of Conduct in relation to young people in year 11 and below.

The society has child protection procedures which accompany this policy.

The society has a dedicated Child Protection Officer [CPO], who will ensure that the child protection policy and procedures are adhered to. They will hold office during any period of preparation and performance involving a child. The CPO will report back to the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee reminds all adult members that they must exercise special care and attention when performing with children and must respect the boundaries of their physical and mental powers. This includes both the child's physical limitations and also their capacity to understand instructions.

Adult members are strongly advised against being friends with child members on social media sites such as Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok etc.

This policy will be regularly monitored by the Executive Committee of TSP and will be subject to annual review.

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