

Arts Destination South Molton (ADSM) Safeguarding Statement: The Protection of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults

It is always unacceptable for a child, young person or vulnerable person to experience abuse of any kind. ADSM recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all whom it works alongside, by a commitment to practice which protects them.

ADSM believes that having effective safeguarding in place not only protects and promotes the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults, but it also enhances the confidence of trustees, staff, volunteers, parents, carers and the general public.

This purpose of this policy is to provide protection for the children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive ADSM's services. It applies to anyone volunteering/working for, or on behalf, of ADSM. We will not be involved in any regulated activities.

ADSM aims to safeguard the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults participating and engaging with the arts by ensuring that its client/partner organisations commit to good practice, which protects children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm.

ADSM will take account of and comply with current legislation and best practice. We will only volunteer in the capacity of supervised volunteers.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- All children, young people and vulnerable adults, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents/guardians/carers, teachers and relevant agencies, by informing, and involving them, is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

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

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Adopting protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Recruiting volunteers - and occasionally staff - safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, volunteers (staff) and other relevant adults
- Ensuring all parents/guardians/carers/teachers are responsible for the continuous care and supervision of their own children / pupils during any of ADSM's activities; or delegate their responsibilities to an identified adult and ensure that their children/ pupils are aware of the identity and name of the

person responsible for their care. Under no circumstances will ADSM act in 'loco parentis'

- Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know and involving parents and children appropriately.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through training, supervision and support.

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- Changes in legislation and / or government guidance
- As required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board
- As a result of any other significant change or event.

Mary Alison Verney, Trustee, is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of this policy. The next review is due on 13 March 2024.

Contact Information:

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