

# **SAFEGUARDING / CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

This policy applies to all *Immersive Theatres* staff, including interns, volunteers and work experience students.

## **Purpose of this Policy:**

- to protect children and young people who take part in *Immersive Theatres* programmes. This includes the children of adults who use our services;
- to provide *Immersive Theatres* staff and volunteers with the principles that guide our approach to child protection.

*Immersive Theatres* believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to deliver our programmes in a way that protects children.

#### Legal framework

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

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Relevant government guidance on safeguarding children

>>> We recognise that...

#### We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989.
- all children, 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.
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential for promoting young people's welfare.

## We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- adopting child protection practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy and related procedures eg. never photographing children engaged in *Immersive Theatres* activities.
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training.
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are carried out.
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers.
- sharing concerns with agencies who need to know and involving parents and children appropriately.

## We are committed to regularly reviewing our policy and good practice.

This policy was last reviewed on: 29 June 2020

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Signed: <sup>4</sup>

Name: Mario Di Maggio

Company Position: Owner & Director