



## **Starcast Performing Arts Schools (Starcast P A S )Safe Guarding Policy**

**Updated May 2020**

### **Our Safeguarding policy**

This policy applies to all staff, assistants and volunteers and students.

The purpose of this policies:

1. To protect children and young people who receive Starcast P A S services.
2. To provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

Starcast P A S 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 practise in a way that protects them.

### **Legal Framework**

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

1. Children Act 1989
2. United Convention of Rights of the Child 1991
3. Data Protection Act 1998
4. Human Rights Act 1998
5. Sexual Offences Act 2003
6. Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
7. Children Act 2006
8. Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
9. Children and Families Act 2014
10. Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) code of practice
11. Information sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding serves to children and young people; HM Government 2015
12. Working together to safeguard children: a guide to inter agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; HM Government 2015.

This policy should be read alongside our policies and procedures on

1. Starcast General Data Protection Regulation Policy
2. Code of conduct for students and parents
3. Code of conduct for youth produced sexual imagery (sexting)



4. Anti bullying
5. Complaints and allegations against staff
6. Starcast Staff Behaviour Policy
7. Safer Recruitment Policy

We recognise that:

1. The welfare of children is paramount, as enshrined in the Children's Act 1989
2. 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
3. Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs and other issues
4. Working in partnership with children and young people, their parents and carers is essential in promoting young peoples welfare.

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

1. Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
2. Adopting child protection and safeguarding practises through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
3. Developing and implementing an effective e - safety policy and related procedures
4. Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
5. Recording and storing information professionally and securely
6. Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns with relevant agencies who need to know and involving parents and carers accordingly.
7. Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staffed volunteers appropriately.
8. Creating and maintaining an anti - bullying environment
9. Ensuring we provide a safe physical environment for our children and young people
10. Advising children, young people, parents and carers on what advice lines to call for professional help and advice.

**During online sessions:**

1. We will report any concerns we or our teachers have about children to the DSO.

Staff who interact with children online will continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any concerns will be reported to the DSO. We will ask our teachers will be vigilant and be able to identify any changes of behaviour, physical or emotional. If they have any concerns about a child's welfare they will seek advice from the DSO.

2. We have made all our teachers and volunteers aware of our revised policies in regards to online teaching.
3. We have updated where to seek advice from professional guidance for online matters.



4. We have informed parents and carers of our safeguarding terms for online classes.
5. We have updated our website to include our revised policy.

#### **Contact details**

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)

Name: Kiri Golding

Mobile 07809 220405

Deputy DSO

Name: Samantha Holloway

Mobile 07974 721091

CEOP

[www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

#### **Professional online safety advice:**

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline (POSH) was set up in 2011 to help all members of the community working with or for children in the UK, with any online safety issues they, or children and young people in their care, may face. So, if you work with children and young people, we're here to help you. You can access their website below:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/helpline/professionals-online-safety-helpline> Or you can contact your local authority

We are committed to reviewing our policy bi - annually.

Further Guidance can be found here:

- **Internet matters** - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- **London Grid for Learning** - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online
- **Net-aware** - for support for parents and careers from the NSPCC
- **Parent info** - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online



- **Thinkuknow** - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online
- **UK Safer Internet Centre** - advice for parents and carers
- Coronavirus (COVID-19): safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers (DfE: 27.03.2020) Link on page 1.