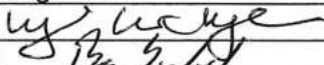
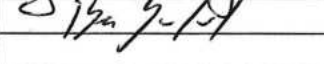




## **Children's Safeguarding Policy**

1. This policy is applicable to all members of the New Forest Players Amateur Dramatic Society and any person working on their behalf. It should be read in conjunction with the Children's Safeguarding Procedure document, Photography and sharing images document and the society Code of Conduct.
2. New Forest Players Amateur Dramatic Society recognises its duty of care under the Children and Young Persons Act 1963, the Child (Performances) Regulations 1968, the Protection of Children Act 1999, the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000, The Children's Act 1989, 2004, and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023. A summary of key legislation and guidance is available from [www.nspcc.org.uk/childprotection](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/childprotection).
3. The society recognises that abuse can take many forms, whether it be physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse or neglect and is committed to practice which safeguards and protects children from harm.
4. The society understands that:
  - The welfare of the child is paramount.
  - All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.
  - Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.
  - Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their physical or mental health, communication needs or other issues. Extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.
  - All suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately in line with documented procedures.
  - All members of the society should be clear on how to respond appropriately.

5. The Society will ensure that:
- There is a nominated Safeguarding lead for children and young people and a lead committee member for Safeguarding.
  - It will keep informed of changes in legislation and policies for the safeguarding and protection of children.
  - The duty of care to children will always be prioritised and they will be treated with equality, respect and dignity.
  - Safeguarding and child protection procedures are followed to share concerns and relevant information with statutory agencies involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately.
  - Safeguarding procedures are followed to manage any allegations or concern raised appropriately.
  - An anti-bullying environment is created and maintained.
  - A safe physical environment for children, young people, members and audiences is provided, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
  - A complaints process is in place.
  - A safeguarding culture will be maintained where members, children, young people and their families, treat each other with kindness, respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.
  - A register of every child involved with the society is maintained and will retain a contact name and number close at hand in case of emergencies.
  - Follow NNCEE guidelines for children in performance which incorporates all current best practice
6. This policy will be monitored by the Committee of the society and will be subject to biannual review.
7. Key contacts:
- NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000.
  - Hampshire MASH: 0300 5551384 during office hours 8:30 - 5pm, 0300 555 1373 at all other times to contact the Out of Hours Service.
  - NFP Safeguarding Lead:
  - NFP Committee Member Responsible for Safeguarding:

Review Schedule:	Signed:	Signed by Committee:
03/04/2027		LYN LOCKYER
03/04/2027		BEN SANDFORD