



28 DANCE COMPANY CHILD PROTECTION POLICY 2024

28 Dance Company has a duty to safeguard all children and young people who take part or are otherwise involved in our performance productions from harm or abuse, and to protect children that watch our content, and interact with them.

28 Dance Company is therefore committed:

- To take all necessary steps to protect children and young people who take part or are otherwise involved in 28 Dance Company production.
- To ensure that whenever they are involved in productions, duty of care is taken over their physical and emotional welfare and dignity, and that they are not caused unnecessary distress or anxiety either by their involvement in the project, or by its broadcast.
- To ensure that children taking part are in a safe, reassuring and welcoming environment, with appropriate supervision at all times.
- To ensure all children are treated with respect as individuals, and offered equality of opportunity.
- To have a single consistent point of contact with whom the child and their parent is able to liaise throughout the performance process, as far as this is practicable.
- When children are performing in any production, to ensure they are licensed and accompanied by parents/guardians or suitably registered and trained chaperones.
- To hold any personal information obtained from children securely. Consideration of children's welfare should therefore be at the heart of any production and should be always our priority over any editorial considerations.
- There is no single legal definition of a child, although for the purpose of this guidance "child" refers to someone under the age of 16, and "young people" refers to those under the age of 18.

Parental Consent

Parental consent is an important pre-condition for participation by children, but it is only the starting point, and not a substitute for our making our own independent assessment of any potential risks to the welfare of the child, both during our production and after transmission, treating the child with respect as an individual, and not simply relying on the assessment of the parent. The ability of the child to give informed assent to taking part, and to understand the likely consequences, is just as important as obtaining the parent's consent.

28 Dance Company is obliged by the APA and Equity Guidelines to take due care towards all production participants under the age of 18. An appropriate risk assessment should be made by the production in every case to minimise the risks to children in relation to the activities they will be carrying out. Depending on the type of production, producers may wish to create specific written guidelines for their team working with children, in addition to this general policy.

Consideration of how best to safeguard a child's welfare will vary depending on the type of content being made, and the level of care must be appropriate to the circumstances, and to the individual child. Their age, maturity and capacity to make judgments about their participation will all be relevant to the steps taken, and other issues such as gender, cultural, ethnic and religious background, personal circumstances and previous life experiences may all impact on a child's vulnerability and/or resilience.

Everyone working with children (whether production staff or otherwise) should always behave in an appropriate manner towards and around children and young people.

Child Licensing (for stage and screen)

28 Dance Company will always adhere to the government's child performance regulations. This includes but is not limited to, adhering to the maximum hours per day for which children of certain ages can be present in a performance space, and minimum requirements for breaks depending on the age of the child. These breaks and restrictions are mandatory and cannot be modified, even with the consent of the licensed chaperone.

Chaperones may request additional breaks or longer periods between performances if the child's welfare demands. Children should not be required at the place of performance before 7am and must leave by 11pm if over 5 years of age, and 10pm if younger, unless the consent of the Licensing Authority has been sought. Specific consent must also be sought for any night work.

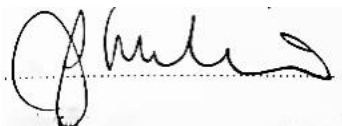
When performing or filming we will ensure that children have an appropriate performance licence and appropriate supervision by a parent/guardian or a registered chaperone. A registered chaperone means one recognised by the appropriate licensing authority. Registered chaperones should have also had Criminal Record Checks carried out by their LEA. We will also refer to the Advice issued by the Department of Education on any new regulations and the NNCEE Best Practice Guidelines.

Children travelling to our places of performance must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, or by a chaperone. Any conditions that the Licensing Authority makes relating to travel, accommodation (including facilities available on set) and meals must be observed, as must any requirements relating to the child's education.

Privacy and Consent Online

When we publish any information about children online, we will ensure it is editorially appropriate, and be sensitive to concerns that publication of too much information could put a child at risk, including revealing their surname.

- Any information about children should only be used for the purpose for which it was sent.
- It should be retained securely.
- It should not be revealed to a third party.



Fiona Dear, 28 Dance Company Safeguarding Lead



Sophia Melvin, 28 Dance Company Creative Director