** ACTION TRANSPORT THEATRE**

**SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT**

***Action Transport Theatre actively encourages the safety and well-being of children, young people and vulnerable adults, and a culture and environment which supports this.***

***We aim to*** ***create a safe environment where they can enjoy rewarding and stimulating experiences.***

***We recognise that they should be:***

* ***listened to and heard***
* ***valued and respected as individuals***
* ***respected for their identity and uniqueness***
* ***encouraged and praised***
* ***involved in decisions as appropriate***

***regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual identity, language, culture, racial origin or religious beliefs.***

Action Transport Theatre takes any suspicion, disclosure or allegation of abuse very seriously, and the company’s Safeguarding Procedures set out the supportive, confidential and professional nature of how suspicion, disclosure or allegation of abuse is reported both internally within Action Transport Theatre and to appropriate statutory authorities.

All Staff in this organisation accept and recognise our responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause young people and vulnerable adults harm.

It is important that staff members and young people are aware of, and confident in using, Action Transport Theatre’s safeguarding procedures. Staff and young people should actively and openly discuss the issues within this document in order to ensure that we work in an environment where the systems of reporting are clear, and everyone feels comfortable in how to deal with suspicion, disclosure or allegation of abuse.

***We will endeavour to safeguard them by:***

1. Adopting safeguarding guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
2. Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, parents and carers, staff and volunteers
3. Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
4. Following carefully the procedures for recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers
5. Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training
6. Regularly monitoring and reviewing our policy and good practice

*NB: The definition of ‘child’ or ‘young person’ relates to anyone under the age of 18, and also*

 *to those above the age of 18 who are vulnerable for reasons of mental and physical ability. This Policy links into Action Transport Theatre’s Equal Opportunities Policy;*

*Recruitment Policy; Staff Disciplinary Procedures; Health and Safety Policy and Equality policy and action plan*