

EGERTON PLAYERS CHILD PROTECTION POLICY – March 2015

1. Preamble

1:1 This policy refers to any child or young person under 18 and to any production or event.

1:2 Children are welcomed by Egerton Players. We want them to enjoy the exciting experience of acting in front of a live audience. We want them to have fun but at the same time ensure that they are kept safe.

2. Child Protection Policy Statement of Egerton Players

- **All children and young people have a right to protection from abuse;**
- **All allegations of abuse or inappropriate behaviour suggestive of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately;**
- **Physical or emotional bullying of children by adults or other children will not be tolerated or condoned. Action will be taken to stop any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour.**

3. Child Protection Adviser

3:1 The Child Protection Adviser for Egerton Players is

Simon Tapp: Land Line: 01233 756314; Mobile: 07770 300154.

4. Productions

4:1 The Director and Producer have overall responsibility for the safety of children in their production.

4:2 Before embarking on any production involving children the Director/Producer should consult with the Child Protection Adviser regarding issues of child safety - and can of course do so again at any other point.

5. Parental Consent

5:1 The written consent of a parent should be sought by the Director/Producer for any child involved in a production.

5:2 At the outset written parental consent should be sought for the photographing of children within the production (promotional material, a record of the production etc.).

5:3 A copy of these Child Protection Procedures should be given to all parents.

5:4 Parents are welcome to attend rehearsals.

6. Supervision

6:1 The Producer should ensure that appropriate supervision/chaperone arrangements are made for children.

6:2 The maximum number of children in a chaperone's care should not exceed 12; for large groups of children it is best to have 2 adults present.

6:3 Children under 16 should have their own dressing room facilities.

7. Physical Contact

7:1 Adults will only touch children when it is absolutely necessary, in public and in relation to the particular dramatic activity.

7:2 The consent of the child should always be sought in such circumstances and the purpose of the contact carefully explained.

8. Organisational Issues

8.1 The Producer should hold a list of all children in the production with a contact number of the parents for emergencies.

8:2 This Policy should be reviewed at least annually by the Committee with the Child Protection Adviser present and the item reported on at every AGM.

- **It is the responsibility of all of us within the Players to be attentive to child safeguarding matters. We must not be afraid of challenging each other on our behaviour or actions towards children.**
- **Any safeguarding concern should be passed immediately to the Director/Producer, Chair of the Committee or the Child Protection Adviser. If in doubt consult the Child Protection Adviser.**