North Devon Arts (NDA) - Safeguarding Statement
(Created December 2022. Reviewed August 2023 & 2024)

For the Protection of Children, Young People, Vulnerable Adults & including NDA Members

It is unacceptable for a child, young person, vulnerable person (or anyone), to feel unsafe, or experience abuse of any kind.

NDA recognises it has a responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all whom it works alongside, giving a commitment to practice which protects them.

NDA believes by having effective safeguarding in place it not only protects and promotes the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults, but also enhances the confidence of all our members, volunteers and the general public.

By implementing this safeguarding policy, NDA aims to provide protection for the children, young people and vulnerable adults who use NDA's services and applies to anyone volunteering/working for, or on behalf, of NDA.

NDA aims to safeguard the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults participating and engaging with the arts NDA may provide, by ensuring that its client/ partner organisations commit to good practice, protecting children, young people and vulnerable adults from harm and to anyone volunteering/working for, or on behalf, of NDA.

NDA will take account of and comply with current legislation and best practice, by using supervised volunteers.

NDA recognise that:
- The welfare of the child/young person is paramount.
- All children, young people and vulnerable adults, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents/guardians/carers, teachers and relevant agencies, by informing, and involving them in promoting relevant welfare.
- Safeguarding measures are implemented when working with NDA Members and volunteers (staff).

NDA will seek to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults by:
- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them.
- Adopting protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for volunteers.
- Recruiting volunteers, commissioned roles and occasionally staff - safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, volunteers (staff) and other relevant adults.

• Ensuring all parents/guardians/carers/teachers are responsible for the continuous care and supervision of their own children/pupils during any NDA activities; or delegate their responsibilities to an identified adult and ensure that their children/ pupils are aware of the identity and name of the person responsible for their care. Under no circumstances will NDA act in 'loco parentis'.
• Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know and involving parents and children appropriately.
• Providing effective management for volunteers (staff) through training, supervision and support.

The NDA 2022 Safeguarding Policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:
• Changes in legislation and/or government guidance.
• As required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board
• As a result of any other significant change or event.