



Child Protection Policy

Aiming High School of Performing Arts fully recognises our responsibilities for child protection.

Our Policy applies to all staff and volunteers working within the school.

We aim to:

- Ensure we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children.
- Raise awareness of child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe.
- Develop and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse.
- Support children in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan.
- Establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.

We recognise that because of the day to day contact with children, staff are well placed to observe the outward signs of abuse. Aiming High School of Performing Arts will therefore:

- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to.
- Ensure children know that there are adults whom they can approach if they are worried.

We will follow the procedures set out by the Local Safeguarding Children Board and take account of guidance issued by the Department for Education and Skills to:

- Ensure we have a designated senior person (Nicola Castiglione & Aimee McGoldrick) for child protection who has received appropriate training and support for this role.
- Ensure every member of staff (including temporary and supply staff and volunteers) knows the name of the designated senior person responsible for child protection and their role.
- Ensure all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated senior person responsible for child protection.
- Develop effective links with the relevant agencies and co-operate as required with their enquiries regarding child protection matters.