

Market Drayton Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society

SAFEGUARDING POLICY (Children & Vulnerable Adults)

Policy

Market Drayton Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society (MDAODS) recognizes its duty of care under the law.

The society recognizes that abuse can take many forms, whether it be physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse or neglect. The society is committed to practice which protects children and vulnerable adults from harm. All members of the society are encouraged to accept and recognize their responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause children and vulnerable adults harm.

The society believes that:

- The welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount.
- All children and vulnerable adults, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- All members of the society should be clear on how to respond appropriately.

The society will endeavour to ensure that:

- All children and vulnerable adults will be treated equally and with respect and dignity.
- The duty of care to children and vulnerable adults will always be put first.
- A balanced relationship based on mutual trust will be built which empowers the children and vulnerable adults to share in the decision-making process.
- Enthusiastic and constructive feedback will be given rather than negative criticism.
- Bullying will not be accepted or condoned.
- All adult members of the society provide a positive role model for dealing with other people.
- Action will be taken to stop any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour.
- It will keep up-to-date with health & safety legislation.
- It will keep informed of changes in legislation and policies for the protection of children.
- It will undertake relevant development and training.

- It will hold a register of every child and vulnerable adult involved with the society and will retain a contact name and number close at hand in case of emergencies.

The society has child and vulnerable adult protection procedures which accompany this policy. This policy should also be read in conjunction with the society's Anti-Bullying Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, Health & Safety Policy and GDPR Policy

The society has a dedicated child and vulnerable adult Safeguarding Officer and Deputy Safeguarding Officer, who are in charge of ensuring that the child/vulnerable adult safeguarding policy is adhered to:

SO:	Sharon Wright	tel: 01630 655676
DSO:	Richard Greenwood	tel: 07976 614045

MDAODS is committed to regular review of its policies and procedures to ensure they continue to promote the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.