

# Child Protection Policy – Guidelines



## Thurso Players' Policy on Performances which include Juniors

### Rationale for this Policy

Thurso Players have long enjoyed the tradition of performing productions which involve both Senior and Junior members. Some issues must be addressed to ensure child protection matters are attended to. This policy aims to ensure members and parent/carers are clear about procedures and responsibilities regarding Juniors involved in performances. Any events where alcohol is freely available must adhere to the party policy.

***Note:** Junior members are aged 17 years or under. In the event that a junior turns 18 during the year they will become an adult member and will be subject to a PVG.*

### Scope of policy

This policy relates only to productions involving Junior members aged 17 years and under.

***Note:** This policy has been written by Thurso Players' Child Protection Officer. It is the responsibility of the producer of each production to implement this policy.*

### The Policy

- A minimum of two adult members should be present at all times when Juniors are present. At least one adult will be the Nominated Adult. Juniors, and their parents/carers, should be made aware of who the Nominated Adult is and of the contents of this policy in writing at the commencement of the performance period.
- Parental/carer approval must be obtained where a "later than usual" finish time is expected. Common sense should prevail in this instance.
- A Nominated Adult member will be appointed to take responsibility for the Junior members during Performances. If a child or member's actions give cause for concern speak sensitively to them. Record all your actions and pass all details on to the Lead Person (Child Protection Officer) as quickly as possible.
- Juniors and their parents/carers will be advised in writing of dates, times, location and general arrangements. Thurso Players can accept no responsibility for children outwith these times.
- If a Junior fails to attend a performance when they are expected, parents/carers will be contacted. If a performance finishes before the expected time, or is running late, parents/carers will be contacted before Juniors are permitted to depart.
- Any issues concerning a Junior member (such as a junior being upset, losing a phone etc.) arising during performances should be directed to the Nominated Adult.
- A register of Junior attendees will be kept, in line with production guidelines.
- No unauthorised persons are permitted backstage or have access to the dressing rooms. This includes family members.
- Photographs/video must not be taken at a performance in the dressing room or back stage. A specific area will be provided. Photos should not be published on social media without the permission of all those in the photograph.
- Parental/carer consent should be sought prior to any child being escorted home by any individual.