



## **Thurso Players – Child Protection Policy**

### **The Role and Responsibilities of the Chaperone**

#### **Role**

The chaperone's role is to safeguard, support and promote the wellbeing of the child during their workshops, rehearsals, performance or activity. The chaperone is the key person to whom a child should turn for support and all children should be made aware of this.

#### **Responsibilities**

In order to meet the requirements of the role, the chaperone must:

- Be fully aware of the conditions which form part of any Licence(s) or Body of Persons Approval granted in respect of the children they are supporting
- Ensure that all necessary working hour limits are adhered to regardless of production pressures
- Support and supervise the child at all times during the performance or activity unless the child is in the care of their parent or carer.
- Ensure the child has access to appropriate food, rest and appropriate toilet facilities throughout the performance or activity
- Use appropriate language and actions in the presence of a child and ensure the same from other children and adults in the vicinity of the child
- Listen to the views of the child and advocate for the child, as required
- Where relevant, be aware of and agree to any arrangements made for the child to travel to and from the place of performance or activity
- Respond to any concerns regarding the child's wellbeing by sharing information with relevant individuals in an appropriate, proportionate and timely manner

#### **Need for Awareness**

The chaperone should also be aware of the following issues which may give cause for concern in relation to the individual children in their care:

- Features of the production that may cause emotional distress to the child, such as scenes involving violence, injury /death, abuse and bad language
- Fire procedures
- Safe standing areas on stage and back-stage
- Movement/placement of scenery, machinery and other hardware (electrical cables etc.)
- Movement of vehicles
- Adequacy and appropriateness of lighting
- Smoke effects and pyrotechnics
- Use of animals
- The weather, especially heat in the summer and ice on pavements in colder months
- Natural features of outdoor sets which may pose potential risk