

San-Marie Stage School

Safeguarding Policy

This policy applies to all staff, contractors, volunteers, students and anyone else working on behalf of San-Marie Stage School.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people who attend the San-Marie Stage School; and
- To provide staff (full-time and contractors) and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

San-Marie Stage School believes that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989;
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them;
- Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer for children and young people, being the Principal of San-Marie;
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers;
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures;
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made;
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents families and carers appropriately;
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately;
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.

Supervision

Whilst in-class children and young people are supervised by a member of staff. Before and after classes, children and young people are the responsibility of their parents / carers.

Annual Show – children under the age of 16 years are fully supervised by parents and licenced chaperones. In addition, a qualified Safeguarding officer is present (Designated person for child protection, safeguarding Level 3) as well as a paramedic.

Use of photographs and videos

Official photographs and videos may be used for advertising purposes. Parents are given the opportunity to opt their children out of this.