Our Child Protection Policy

We in Dramatic Action Stage School want to make sure that all children and young people who come to Dramatic Action Stage School are safe and are protected from harm. We call this our Child Protection Policy.

Children and young people have a right to:

✓ Be safe.

✓ Be listened to.

✓ Be treated with fairness and respect.

✓ Be free from bullying.

✓ Get help and support if you've been hurt, neglected or badly treated.

Everyone working in Dramatic Action Stage School respects these rights. This is part of our **Code of Behaviour**. Our Child Protection Policy says that if anyone is worried that a child or young person is being hurt, bullied or abused, they should talk to Rob Murphy or Pauline Looney. Rob can be contacted at 0851554582 or Pauline can be contacted at 0876720651 or dramaticaction@hotmail.com

**Abuse is not the fault of the person who is being hurt and nobody
ever has the right to abuse anyone else.**

If we are worried that a child or young person is not safe or might be harmed, we will talk to people who can help. If this happens Rob and Pauline our Designated Person's will explain what is happening.

If you are worried about yourself or another child or young person, the most important thing is to talk to someone about it. The information you share will be kept private and only shared with people who need to know and can help.

Remember: Abuse is never your fault.
If you or someone you know is being abused in any way, the best thing you can do is talk to someone who can help.

Bullying
At Dramatic Action we do not allow bullying.
Bullying can be someone:
• Calling people names or saying hurtful things.
• Taking money or food off you.
• Swearing at you.
• Pushing you around.
• Hurting your body in any way, such as pushing, pinching, punching or kicking you.
• Leaving you out or ignoring you.

Remember: Bullying is **NEVER** your fault, and never something that you deserve - you should be able to feel happy and safe wherever you are.

Making a complaint
We welcome comments and suggestions from children, young people, parents and others.

If you are worried or upset by something that happens here you can make a complaint. The person to talk to about complaints is: Rob Murphy or Pauline Looney.

We will listen carefully to your complaint and will answer it within **7 working days**.

Remember - **if you or someone you know is being abused in any way, the best thing you can do is talk to someone who can help.**

Our code of behaviour

Our code of behaviour helps us to make sure that everyone at **Dramatic Action** is safe and free from harm.

Sample code of behaviour

Adults/Leaders	Children / Young People
• Treat everyone fairly. • Listen to what children and young people have to say. *(Add or amend in line with your code of behaviour for children and young people.)*	• Co-operate with leaders instructions. • Do not tolerate bullying. *(Add or amend in line with your code of behaviour for children and young people. It is good practice to involve participants in developing their code of behaviour.)*

Information for Parents

Here at Dramatic Action Stage School we are committed to providing a safe environment for children and young people. Children's welfare and safety is our top priority. We comply with Children First: National Guidelines for Child Protection and Welfare. To help us achieve this, we have a Child

Protection Policy and Procedures which guide our work. We have:

✓ A code of behaviour for staff and volunteers.

✓ A safe recruitment policy.

✓ A Designated Person, who looks after child protection concerns.

✓ A confidentiality policy.

✓ A complaints policy.

✓ An accidents and incidents reporting policy.

We ask parents and guardians to:
• Read the information provided.
• Talk to us if you have any concerns.
• Co-operate with staff (leaders) in ensuring children and young people are safe.
• Drop and collect children and young people on time and not leave them unattended.
• Give us contact details and let us know who will collect children
and young people.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information.