

REDLANDS EISTEDDFOD – CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

As providers of cultural activities for children through to adults we believe we are part of the community of care.

Whilst providing performance platforms for young people in the fields of Music, Dance and Speech and Drama in a positive environment, we are at all times committed to their safety and well-being. They will be treated with respect and understanding at all times. In order to ensure they are kept safe from harm our organization will take the following steps and implement the following procedures;

- Ensure that all venues and facilities are safe for both performers and the audience and that all signage is clear and that the various areas are clearly marked and supervised.
- Ensure that adequate change rooms are made available for dancers, catering for both gender and age. These change rooms will be constantly supervised by a qualified member of the organization.
- Ensure that all volunteers of the organization coming into contact with the children in any way hold a current blue card, have undergone a blue card check and the required reference checks.
- Ensure that all Adjudicators (the only people associated with the eisteddfod who are paid for their expert advice) have been screened thoroughly, hold a blue card and are well referenced.
- Ensure that each volunteer is competently trained at the task set and is fully aware of the code of conduct. A form will be signed to acknowledge this.
- Ensure each volunteer signs in and out at the beginning and end of each shift.
- Ensure that the rules surrounding Photography and Videoing of performers are upheld.
- **Ensure that all children under the age of 18 are accompanied by a parent, carer or teacher at all times, other than when performing or when backstage.**
- Ensure that the rules and regulations including acceptable codes of conduct governing participation by both performers and parents/teachers are provided in the schedule and program and that acknowledgement of this is recorded on the entry form or on a separate sheet.
- Notify the Department of Child Safety if any volunteer suspects a child is being harmed in the home. This includes any suspicions of a family member harming the child/young person whilst at the Eisteddfod.
- Notify the Department of Child Safety if any volunteer suspects a child is self harming.
- Notify the Police if any volunteer suspects a child is being harmed outside the home. This includes any harm done to a child/young person whilst at the eisteddfod.
- Contact relevant authorities on the suspicion of harm or inappropriate behaviour to any child/young person performing at or attending the eisteddfod.

REDLANDS EISTEDDFOD – CODE OF CONDUCT

As a volunteer organization providing performance opportunities for young people we will demonstrate –

- Understanding of children and young people, their ages, stages of development, special circumstances and special needs.
- No physical contact at any time, unless requested by the child/young person in the case of a minor costume or prop malfunction.
- Use of language which is age/stage appropriate, clear, non-bullying and non sexual.
- Willingness to listen to concerns of the child/young person regarding another child, parent, teacher or volunteer.
- Willingness to listen to concerns of the parent/carer regarding another child, parent, teacher or volunteer.
- Willingness to listen to concerns of teachers regarding another child, parent teacher or volunteer.
- Openness to parent, child and teacher's feedback, suggestions and complaints.
- Sensitivity and concern that material being presented or proposed to be presented by performers is appropriate for their age/stage of development. Material considered inappropriate will not be performed.

All children and young people will demonstrate –

- Willingness to listen to and act upon instructions from volunteers of the organization.
- Respect for other children/young people and adults who are taking part in the eisteddfod. This includes swearing, bullying, intimidation, interference with another's property (including costumes, props, music, books and instruments) and have no uninvited physical contact with others.
- Adherence to the Rules and Regulations (i.e. conditions of entry) listed in the Schedule and Program
- Safe and appropriate behaviour while waiting to perform.
- Responsibility for behaving appropriately and reporting inappropriate behaviour by others and unsafe situations or harm.

Parents/Carers and Teachers will demonstrate –

- Willingness to listen to and act upon instructions from volunteers of the organization.
- Willingness to stay out of all areas for performers unless specified.
- Respect for children/young people and adults who are taking part in the Eisteddfod. This includes inappropriate language, bullying, intimidation, interference with property and uninvited physical contact with others.
- Adherence to all rules and regulations (conditions of entry) of the Eisteddfod listed in the schedule and program as well as total compliance with the Photography and Videoing Regulations.
- Responsibility for the whereabouts of the child/young person/s they are accompanying unless performing or preparing backstage.
- Responsibility for reporting inappropriate behaviour and unsafe situations or harm.

In order to ensure that the eisteddfod is a positive, worthwhile experience for children/young people, as organizers of the Eisteddfod we have the right to –

- Disqualify any child/young person or group of children/young people from the competition for failing to comply with the code of conduct above.
- Disqualify any child/young person whose parent/carer or teacher has not complied with the code of conduct above.
- Raise any concerns with child/young person, parent or teacher or volunteer.
- Expect that concerns of the children/young people, parents or teachers will be voiced as soon as they arise so that they can be dealt with immediately.
- Refuse entry to venues any child/young person, parent or teacher or volunteer who has previously behaved inappropriately according to the code of conduct.
- Remove any volunteer from duty who has behaved in any way contrary to the code of conduct.