



Child and Protected Adult Safeguarding Policy Statement

This policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children and Protected Adults are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender or sexual orientation, race, culture, religion or belief, socio-economic background, all children and Protected Adults

- have a positive experience of poetry and the arts under the aegis of StAnza in a safe environment
- are protected from both the fear and the reality of abuse whilst participating in events organised by StAnza

StAnza acknowledges that some children - including children with disabilities – and some Protected Adults can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

StAnza also acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring that its safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with the best practice and guidance and relevant to this, including but not limited to the Children (Scotland) Act (1995), National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland and Supporting Young People's Health and Wellbeing.

Where necessary, those working for StAnza in an organisational capacity, whether paid or unpaid, will have undergone the relevant PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Group) checks.

Further information about the Protecting Vulnerable Groups scheme:

<http://www.advisorypvg.com/>

In the implementation of its Safeguarding Policy, StAnza will

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and Protected Adults
- treat all children equally with respect and dignity
- treat all Protected Adults equally with respect and dignity
- not allow unaccompanied children to attend festival and other public events organised by StAnza
- endeavour to ensure that there is no inappropriate use of photography and film involving children at such events
- ensure that our work with children and Protected Adults is delivered through schools and other partners which have demonstrably robust safeguarding systems in place

- take all suspicions and allegations of abuse seriously and respond to them swiftly and appropriately
- identify a member of the organisation to have an overview of Safeguarding Policy and developments - this person to be a PVG Scheme Member

This policy will be required reading for everyone involved in StAnza in an organisational capacity, whether paid or unpaid, and will be available on the StAnza website. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or earlier in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as required by the Child Protection Guidelines
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

Date implemented: September 2018