

WOW Youth Musical Theatre

Questions parents may ask to ensure safety of their children whilst at WOW.

n.b. - staff includes paid, unpaid and volunteers. Club includes activity, service, organisation, groups, provision, and trips, including sport.

What is the rate of staff to children and how many children do you have each session?

The ratio WOW has at each rehearsal is at least 1 to 10. There will always be at least one adult leading the rehearsal (director, assistant director, musical director), alongside two committee members and a parent chaperone as a minimum.

Are you able to work with children with disabilities?

This is dependent on the disability and the performance that we are producing at the time. A child with restricted physical abilities may be difficult to place when producing a named show as there will be lots of intricate movements, however, in a compilation show or cabaret their contribution would be easier to accommodate. Advice would be sought from parents/carers before working with children with learning difficulties or those who are partially sighted. This would need to be discussed further with members of the committee before final decisions were made with regards to working with a child with a disability.

Are staff suitably qualified for the activity they are carrying out?

Yes. WOW ensures that the creative team are properly qualified in the activity they are teaching.

Do staff have appropriate safeguarding, child protection and first aid training?

We try and train as many committee members as possible in safeguarding, child protection and first aid.

Are all the staff suitable to work with children and young people; do they have a current DBS check appropriate to their role?

WOW works closely with the Dorset Youth Association to ensure that DBS checks are up-to-date for all staff. We are currently updating all DBS certificates at the moment (Jan 2018) and they last for 3 years.

Does the club have valid insurance cover?

Yes. The certificate for this is displayed on the front of the metal filing cabinet in the green room at the WOW premises.

Do you collect emergency contact details and medical information?

Yes. This is collected on the membership form when a young person joins WOW and would ask that parents update us at any time with any changes.

Who do I tell if my child takes medication?

This information is asked on the membership form at the time of joining, but if new medication is started at any time, please inform a committee member so that details can be taken and kept for future reference.

What is the name of the club's safeguarding officer?

Kirstie Purnell

Do you have a written code of conduct for staff and children?

You will be given details of expected code and conduct when joining WOW. We also adhere to a constitution.

Do you have a safer recruitment policy for all staff?

WOW do not officially advertise for staff. Usually volunteers come to us through word of mouth. We would, however, ensure that any potential new volunteers meet the required checks and standards for working with WOW before allowing them to work with the children.

Do you have a complaints policy?

We do not currently have an official policy, however, if you do feel the need to complain, please speak to a relevant committee member with your concerns.

What are the arrangements for trips/visits/away events?

WOW ensures that consent forms are received and emergency contact details are taken away with us. We ensure that there will be enough staff to accompany the amount of children going on the event.

Do you have a Quality Mark for your activity?

No.

Can I stay and watch my child?

We would be pleased for you to stay and watch your child, but we would ask that this was made by prior arrangement as the hall cannot accommodate too many parents.

What is the policy for signing in and signing out my child?

A register is normally done during rehearsal, 1. to know who is in the building and 2. to ensure that children are attending the required amount of rehearsals. During show week there is a signing in and out sheet at the Pavilion. For any non-attendance, apologies should be given in advance to Zoe Stockley (not via WOW Cast on Facebook).

What policy do you have around use of photos/videos of my child and do you need my consent?

This question is asked at the time of joining on the membership form.

What is your communication policy when making club arrangements?

We have a closed group on Facebook called WOW Cast which you will be included in when your child joins WOW. We can also e-mail and make telephone calls if necessary. Occasionally letters can be given to the children at the end of rehearsals to inform them of up-coming events.