Magical Experiences Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy

Business Name: Magical Experiences
Policy Owner Cherise James
Effective Date: May 2026
Review Date: May 2027

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1. Policy Statement

Magical Experiences is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people involved in our activities.

We believe every child has the right to:

- **Feel safe and protected**
- **Be treated with dignity and respect**
- **Enjoy entertainment activities free from harm, abuse, bullying, or exploitation**

We recognise our responsibility to take all reasonable steps to safeguard children while participating in our events, performances, parties, and activities.

This policy applies to:

- **Employees**
- **Freelancers and performers**
- **Volunteers**
- **Contractors**
- **Anyone working on behalf of the business**

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2. Purpose of This Policy

The purpose of this policy is to:

- **Protect children and young people who attend our events and activities**
- **Provide guidance for staff and entertainers**
- **Ensure concerns about a child's welfare are identified and responded to appropriately**
- **Promote safe working practices**

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3. Our Commitment

We will:

- **Prioritise the welfare and safety of children**
- **Treat all children equally and with respect**
- **Provide a safe and inclusive environment**
- **Take all safeguarding concerns seriously**
- **Respond appropriately to allegations or concerns**
- **Ensure staff understand their safeguarding responsibilities**
- **Maintain appropriate professional boundaries at all times**

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4. Definitions of Abuse

We recognise the following types of abuse:

Physical Abuse

Causing physical harm or injury.

Emotional Abuse

Persistent emotional mistreatment affecting a child's emotional development.

Sexual Abuse

Forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities.

Neglect

Failing to meet a child's basic physical and emotional needs.

Bullying

Including verbal, physical, emotional, or online bullying.

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5. Responsibilities

The Policy owner is responsible for:

- **Managing safeguarding concerns**
- **Maintaining safeguarding records**

- **Liaising with external agencies where necessary**
- **Ensuring staff understand safeguarding procedures**
- **Reviewing this policy regularly**

Policy Owner Contact Details

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6. Safer Working Practices

All staff and entertainers must:

- **Behave professionally at all times**
- **Avoid being alone with a child where possible**
- **Never engage in inappropriate physical contact**
- **Use appropriate language and behaviour**
- **Avoid favouritism**
- **Never exchange personal contact details with children**
- **Never communicate privately with children via social media or messaging apps**
- **Respect children's privacy and dignity**

Parents and carers remain responsible for supervising children unless agreed otherwise in writing.

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7. DBS Checks

Where appropriate, staff and entertainers may hold Enhanced DBS checks.

The business reserves the right to request DBS certification where required by venues, schools, nurseries, or local authorities.

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8. Photography and Video Recording

Photographs or videos of children will only be taken:

- **With permission from parents, carers, or event organisers**
- **For appropriate business purposes**
- **In line with data protection and privacy expectations**

Images will never be used in a way that may place a child at risk.

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9. Online Safety

Staff and entertainers must:

- **Use business accounts professionally**
- **Avoid private online communication with children**
- **Report any online safeguarding concerns immediately**

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10. Reporting Concerns

Any safeguarding concern, allegation, disclosure, or suspicion must be taken seriously.

If a child is in immediate danger:

- **Contact emergency services immediately by calling 999**

Concerns should be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead as soon as possible.

A written record should include:

- **Date and time**
- **What was seen or disclosed**
- **Names of those involved**
- **Actions taken**

Staff must never:

- **Promise confidentiality to a child**
- **Investigate concerns themselves**
- **Ignore concerns or delays in reporting**

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11. Allegations Against Staff or Performers

Any allegation involving staff, entertainers, volunteers, or contractors will be:

- **Taken seriously**
- **Handled confidentially**
- **Investigated appropriately**
- **Referred to relevant authorities where necessary**

The safety of the child will always be the priority.

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12. Health & Safety

We will maintain a safe environment by:

- **Carrying out risk assessments**
- **Using safe equipment**
- **Monitoring venue safety**
- **Ensuring emergency procedures are in place**

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13. Equality and Inclusion

We are committed to creating an inclusive environment where all children are treated fairly regardless of:

- **Age**
- **Disability**
- **Gender**
- **Race**
- **Religion**
- **Sexual orientation**
- **Background or identity**

Bullying, discrimination, or inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.

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14. Confidentiality and Data Protection

Safeguarding information will be:

- **Kept secure and confidential**
- **Shared only on a need-to-know basis**
- **Managed in accordance with data protection legislation**

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15. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed:

- **Annually**
- **Following any safeguarding incident**
- **Following changes in legislation or guidance**

Signed: C.James

Name: Cherise James

Position:Founder

Date: May 2026