



CHILD PROTECTION STATEMENT 2026

Providing accessible literary opportunities for children in an environment prioritising safety and welfare is imperative to the Storyfest ethos and broader societal aim. As part of our commitment to delivering a safe, enriching and inclusive festival experience, our Child Protection processes are reviewed, audited and updated annually. These apply to all staff and external stakeholders who may interact directly or indirectly with children throughout the event. We adhere to the recommendations of Storyfest's Child Protection Policy. These processes reflect our legislative obligations as well as best-practise child protection frameworks.

We reaffirm our commitment to rigorous procedural improvement through staff preparedness, clearer visitor expectations and enhanced peer-support structures.

Staff Commitments

- Annual training on child-safety obligations and safe practice
- Consistent implementation of safeguarding procedures across all programmes and venues
- Clear communication and accessible pathways for raising concerns or disclosures
- Ongoing feedback channels, audits and evaluation of safety practises

Visitor and Partner Expectations

- Adherence to Storyfest's Child Protection Policy by all visitors, contractors and programme partners
- Clear guidance on expected conduct and reporting procedures
- Safe, respectful behaviour in all student-facing interactions

We remain committed to ongoing review and improvement, including annual policy updates, expanded training opportunities, and continued Board oversight. This ensures Storyfest's approach to literacy enrichment and child safety is current and aligns with community expectations.

Somerset Storyfest

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