**Policy Statement**

Festival School is an inclusive one-day school operating at Bearded Theory Festival. All young people are entitled to an engaging educational programme in a safe, nurturing environment.

**Procedures**

1. Qualifications and staff checks

All staff members have the relevant, current DBS checks.

All staff have the relevant qualifications, experience, and/or skills relevant to their role.

Individual staff members are trained to a Designated Safeguarding Lead level as recognised by Derbyshire County Council and NSPCC.

1. Location and Security

The school operates within the ‘Kids Village’ on the festival site. The school area is secure during the duration of the school. Only recognised, checked staff will be allowed in the area during this period. ‘Visitors’ to the school will be chaperoned at all times by a member of staff at all times and only allowed access with prior agreement with the Senior Leadership Team. All entrances will be manned at all times.

During registration, all young people are issued a numbered wristband with a corresponding number that is given to the parent/primary carer. A young person will only be released at the end of the day if the corresponding number is presented, regardless whether the young person recognises the person collecting them. Discretional checks will be made if deemed appropriate.

All required facilities are available within the secure area, such as appropriate toilets and water points. Young people will be escorted to the facilities and will not be allowed to leave the secure area unless permission has been sought from the senior staff team. No young person would be allowed to leave unaccompanied; they would need to be accompanied by an adult who has been checked as detailed above or by a delegated member of the school staff.

Any adult collecting a young person who is deemed not to be in an appropriate state to supervise a young person will be referred to onsite Welfare services.

Young people are supervised at a ratio of 1:10.

Young people who have identified additional needs will receive personal contact prior to the event by the dedicated, appropriately qualified Special Educational Needs team. A thorough plan will be agreed by all and the appropriate level of supervision and support will be put in place, typically named 1:1 support.

1. Welfare and Medical

A dedicated Welfare Officer is assigned from the school team will be onsite throughout the duration of the school. They will ensure and oversee the young peoples’ safety during the day and at collection.

Due to the uniqueness of the event, it is accepted that some young people may get distressed due to the potential for lack of familiar adults. At first signs of distress, support will be offered to any young person and parents/primary carer contacted.

Any young person with identified additional needs will be offered additional support, in consultation with parents/primary carer and if appropriate current professionals or stakeholders involved in that young person. Typically this will involve the young person being introduced to their 1:1 support prior to the event, appropriate augmentative communications systems offered prior and during the event and alternative provisions offered as an option to support anxieties and allow self-regulating.

Young people with known medical issues will be consulted with prior to the event and any additional measures put in place. Plans around required medication will be decided on prior to the event. Medication will be stored appropriately by the onsite medical team.

Any first aid will be administered by the onsite medical team.

The school is nut free and details of any allergies and intolerances are collected at enrolment and shared with the appropriate staff member or volunteer.

No forms of abuse or discrimination, whether physical, verbal or emotional, will be tolerated at any level. Any child on child abuse, will be identified and acted upon immediately. Any young person found to be instigating or partaking in any form of abuse, may be removed from the school immediately. Any member of staff or volunteer displaying such unprofessional behaviour will be asked to leave the school. If appropriate and meets thresholds, Derbyshire Local Authority Designated Officer will be consulted with and all information shared.

1. Photography and Social Media

A nominated photographer, with a current, appropriate DBS check is the only permissible individual who is allowed to take photographs within the school, unless with the express permission of the Head teacher.

Upon enrolment, and again during registration, consent for photography is requested and any specific issues around photography and safeguarding discussed and noted.

All photos are vetted before general release.

No photographs are to be published on social media unless with the permission of the Head Teacher.

Young people are advised that, if they are carrying phones or cameras, they should be turned off during the duration of the school and in no circumstances are photographs are to be taken without express permission from the Senior Leadership Team. If a young person is identified taking a photograph during the school without permission, they will be asked to delete it immediately.