

ROUNDHOUSE

Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy Roundhouse

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ROUNDHOUSE SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

What to do if you are concerned about a child/adult at risk

If you think a child/
young person is in
immediate danger

Call the Police

If you are approached by a child/young person with a
current or historical disclosure that they are being or
have been harmed or abused

Stay Calm - Don't promise to keep the information
a secret. Record exactly what has happened using
the words said by the child/young person

Should you have a safeguarding concern, you
should only discuss it with the Roundhouse
Designated Safeguarding Officer - the Youth Work
Manager on Shift will be able to advise you of the
contact details for the DSO.

Fill out a Safeguarding Disclosure Form which are
available via Roundup or physical copies can be found
at the Roundhouse Studios front desk. Email this
directly to the Designated Safeguarding Officer -
details below

Designated Safeguarding Officer
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Table of Contents

1. Our Policy	4
1.1 Policy Statement	4
1.2 Policy Aims	5
1.3 Definitions	5
1.4 Definitions of to whom these guidelines apply	6
1.5 General Duties of Staff	7
2. Definition and Recognition of Abuse	8
3. Managing Concerns and Disclosure	8
3.1 Recognition of indicators of Abuse	9
3.2 How disclosure can take place	9
3.3 Staff Responsibilities	9
3.4 What to do if a young person makes a disclosure to you	10
3.5 Incident Reporting / Recording	11
3.6 Police and Social Services - who to contact	11
3.7 Information Sharing and Confidentiality	12
4. Consent	12
4.1 Public and Vital Interest	13
4.2 Getting consent to make a referral	13
4.3 Making a decision not to refer	13
4.4 Making a decision to refer without consent	13
5. Mental Capacity	14
6. Prevent Policy	15
7. Learning, Monitoring and Review	15
8. Supporting Our Participants	16
8.1 Participant Recruitment	16
8.2 Participant Code of Conduct and Behaviour Management	16
9. Supporting our Staff	16
9.1 Staff Recruitment	16
9.2 Staff Training	16
9.3 Probation	16
9.4 Professional Conduct	17
10. Dealing with Allegations	17
10.1 Allegations Against Staff	17
11. Whistleblowing	17
12. The use of Photography, Video footage and Broadcasting of Young People	17
12.1 Photographing / Filming Young People	18
12.2 Broadcasting and Internet	18
13. Premises Management	19
13.1 External Hires	20
14. Appendices	
14.1. Appendix A: Definitions of Abuse	21
14.2. Appendix B: Indicators of Abuse and Neglect	25
14.3. Appendix C: Factors determining At Risk	26
14.4. Appendix D: Safer Working Practice: Guidance for Staff Working with Children, Young People and Adults at Risk	27
14.5. Appendix E: Adult at Risk Safeguarding Reporting Diagram	39
14.6. Appendix F: Roundhouse Safeguarding Disclosure Form	41
14.7. Appendix G: Recommended Agencies	42

1. Our Policy

1.1 Policy Statement

The Roundhouse has a duty of care to safeguard all Young People involved in the Roundhouse from harm. The Roundhouse works with Young People aged 11 to 30 years some of which may be Adults 'at Risk'. This policy is therefore linked to the Roundhouse's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy (November 2025) and the Safer Working Practice: Guidance for Staff working with Children and Adults at Risk. (November 2025). The Roundhouse will also adhere to the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS), and to the London Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedure (2019).

The Roundhouse's work is guided by the following principles;

- The welfare and interests of young people is paramount in all circumstances.
- Regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children and young people should:
 - have a positive and enjoyable experience of our programmes in a safe and person-centred environment;
 - be protected from abuse and harm.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- All staff (paid/unpaid) should be clear on how to respond appropriately

The Roundhouse acknowledges that some participants can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare (see Appendix C)

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in the Roundhouse. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

1.2 Policy Aims

The aim of the Roundhouse's Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy is to promote good practice.

- Providing Adults at Risk with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of the Roundhouse.
- Support Staff to make informed and confident responses to specific safeguarding issues.

1.3 Definitions

Adult: An 'Adult' is defined as a person who has reached the age of 18.

Child/Children: A 'Child' is defined as a person under the age of 18

Young People / Young Person: The term 'Young Person' does not have legal status. The term acknowledges that people in the upper age ranges of the official definition of a Child aged 16-17 may not think of themselves as 'Children'. The Roundhouse also uses the term Young Person / Young Adults to encompass Adults aged 18-30 years of which some may be considered an Adult at Risk.

Adult at Risk: is an Adult is a person aged 18 or over who is in need of care and support regardless of whether they are receiving them, and because of those needs are unable to protect themselves against abuse or neglect" Taken from 2019 London Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures and reflects definition in Section 42 of the Care Act 2014.

Staff: References to 'Staff' refer to any adult who is employed, commissioned or contracted to work with or on behalf of children and young people in either a paid or unpaid capacity by the Roundhouse.

Designated Safeguarding Officer:The Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for the Roundhouse is the Associate Director of Young People: responsible for the strategic lead for safeguarding, ensuring organisational compliance with safeguarding policies and procedures

Deputy Safeguarding Officer is the Senior Youth Work Manager and Partnerships and Impact Director - responsible for overseeing safeguarding across the organisation.

Out of Hours safeguarding responsibilities are with the Duty Manager out of office hours (**Monday – Friday 5pm - 10pm; Saturday and Sunday: 9am – 10pm**)

For the purpose of this policy the term Adult at Risk refers to Young People / Young Adults aged 18 to 30 years.

In the context of the Roundhouse's work with Young People an Adult at Risk may therefore be a person who:

- has a learning disability
- has a physical disability and/or a sensory impairment
- has mental health needs / personality disorder
- has a long-term illness/condition
- misuses substances or alcohol
- is a carer such as a family member/friend who provides personal assistance and care to Adults and is subject to abuse.
- is unable to demonstrate the capacity to make a decision and is in need of care.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt this does not mean that just because a person has a disability they are inevitably at risk. For example, a person with a disability who has the mental capacity to make decisions about their own safety could be perfectly able to make informed choices and protect themselves from harm. In the context of safeguarding Adults, the vulnerability of the Adult at Risk is related to how able they are to make and exercise their own informed choices free from the duress, pressure or undue influence of any sort, and to protect themselves from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

1.4 Definition of to whom these guidelines apply

This policy applies to all staff, trustees and volunteers of the Roundhouse irrespective of their role or contract type and any person or organisation working on our behalf including;

- Any situation involving Adults at Risk whether or not accompanied by adults.
- All staff, freelancers, volunteers, contractors and consultants working in/on

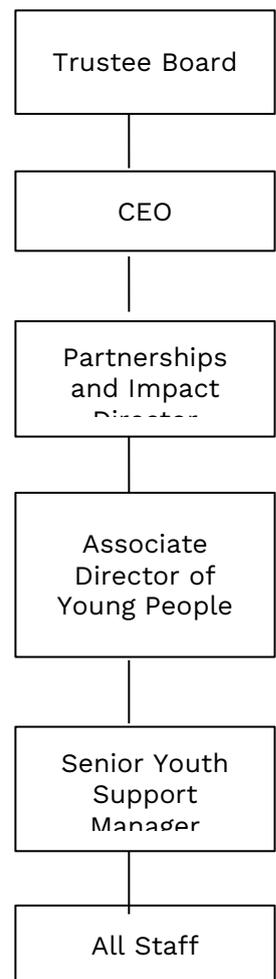
Roundhouse property.

- In the case of contractors and consultants it is incumbent upon the relevant Head of Department that all relevant persons are made aware of this policy.

1.5 General Duties of Staff

The Roundhouse believes that the responsibility for safeguarding is shared by everyone working and volunteering with us, but with a clear leadership and accountability structure running through the organisation.

- **Trustee Board:** undergo biennial safeguarding training on the Safeguarding Policy; has a named trustee with specific responsibility for safeguarding, and is responsible for reporting serious incidents to the Charity Commission.
- **CEO:** sets the organisational culture of safeguarding and ensures that the Associated Director of Young People is appropriately resourced and supported to carry out the duties of the role.
- **Partnerships and Impact Director:** Deputy Safeguarding Officer (in the absence of the Associate Director of Young People) and lead director overseeing safeguarding across the organisation. Biennial completion of NSPCC Safeguarding Training
- **Associate Director of Young People:** Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) within the Roundhouse. Biennial completion of NSPCC DSO Training - responsible for the strategic lead and ensuring organisational compliance with safeguarding policies and procedures.
- **Senior Youth Work Manager:** Deputy Safeguarding Officer (in the absence of the Associate Director of Young People). Biennial completion of NSPCC Safeguarding Training - responsible for leading safeguarding training across the organisation, the response to safeguarding incidents and concerns and liaising with external agencies.



- **All staff (core, seasonal, temporary, contracted and volunteers):** are responsible for ensuring that the welfare of participants remains paramount in all that we do.

Protection from abuse is a human right.

- All suspicions and allegations should be taken seriously, and responded to swiftly.
- Staff are not trained to deal with situations of abuse or to decide if abuse has occurred. It is not the role of any Staff to conduct any investigative proceedings. All incidents should be reported to the Roundhouse Designated Safeguarding Officer who will liaise with the Adult Social Care Team in Camden Council.

2. Definition and Recognition of Abuse

For the purpose of this safeguarding policy the term abuse is defined as: ‘a violation of an individual’s human and civil rights by any other person or persons which results in significant harm.’ (No Secrets 2000)

The categories of abuse described within the Care and Support Statutory Guidance are expansive and cover a range of abusive situations or behaviours. It is important to recognise that exploitation is a common theme in nearly all types of abuse and neglect.

For further information on the different forms of abuse please refer to Appendix A.

3. Managing Concerns and Disclosures

All concerns and allegations will be taken seriously and investigated thoroughly. The Roundhouse recognises that whilst some incidents and allegations will require the support and / or intervention of external agencies, others may be supported through existing internal support mechanisms.

3.1 Recognition of indicators of Abuse

There are several circumstances under which the Roundhouse might have concerns that a Young Person has been or is being abused:

- **Disclosure from a Young Person** – They may tell you about abuse they have experienced either currently or historically.
- **Disclosure from a third party** - A parent, relative, carer, neighbour or another Young Person may share concerns.
- **Observation** - Staff may be concerned through observing one or more indicators of abuse, including an injury for which there is no adequate explanation or behavioural changes.
- **Colleague conduct** – There may be concern about the conduct of a colleague(s) when working with Young People.

3.2 How disclosure can take place

Disclosure can happen particularly frequently in the arts as creative activity can unlock emotions that have been suppressed. Young People are more likely to disclose to someone they see as passing through (e.g. artists delivering workshops) rather than an established member of staff. Disclosure is often presented as a secret, as the person can be concerned about the repercussions of having confided.

Disclosure can take place:

- Verbally
- Non-Verbally - through creative expression in writing, music/song lyrics, etc. and by displaying sexually aware behaviour beyond years and expected level of experience.

3.3 Staff Responsibilities

Staff should be alert to the indicators of abuse and consider whether abuse may have occurred. The presence of an indicator is not proof that abuse has occurred, but:

- Must be regarded as an indicator of the possibility of significant harm.
- Justifies the need for careful assessment and discussion with the Roundhouse's Designated Safeguarding Officer (or in the absence of that individual, the Deputy Safeguarding Officer).
- May require consultation with and/ or referral to Camden's Adult Social Care Team.

The absence of such indicators does not mean that abuse or neglect has not occurred. A list of possible indicators is highlighted in Appendix B. Please be aware that a young person can be abused by another young person.

3.4. What to do if a young person makes a disclosure to you

If a participant discloses that they have been a victim of abuse, or if an employee has concerns that a child/ young person or adult is at risk of harm or abuse, they should immediately:

1. Inform the young person that what they say may not be able to be kept confidential (if they are at risk of harm or someone else is). Do not promise confidentiality.
2. If they continue, allow the young person to speak without interruption, accepting what is said. Reassure them that they have done the right thing while passing no judgement.
 - Listen carefully to what the young person says without interrupting
 - Questions should be necessary, open and non-leading
 - Stay calm - don't show shock or horror
 - Be sensitive – offer a safe and private environment for the young person to talk
 - Be reassuring - tell the young person that they were right to tell/have done nothing wrong
 - Be responsive - acknowledge how difficult it was for the young person to tell, explain what needs to happen next, that you will need to tell someone and pass this information on to keep them safe
 - Don't be afraid of being wrong, or be concerned about starting an investigation - you will be supported

3. Ensure no situation arises that could cause any further concern.
4. Record the facts as you know them on an incident form and pass them to the Designated Safeguarding Officer at the earliest opportunity (the Youth Work Manager on Shift will be able to advise you of the contact details for the DSO).
 - Don't delay action in response to a disclosure
 - At the earliest opportunity make a written record
 - Write down what they have said 'Verbatim' - in their words
 - Fill in Safeguarding Disclosure Form (Appendix F), available on Roundup or by asking the Duty Manager or Youth Work Team at the Studios Reception
5. Escalate to the Designated Safeguarding Officer immediately.

If a member of staff suspects abuse, or has concerns about another staff member, but it has not been disclosed, follow the process as above but without Steps 1 and 2.

3.5. Incident Reporting / Recording

The Designated Safeguarding Officer is responsible for ensuring accurate records are kept and will classify the incident / allegation based on the information provided to help differentiate the types and level of concern. If staff are unsure, concerns should always be reported. The Trustee Board is responsible for reporting serious incidents to the Charity Commission.

3.6. Police and Social Services - Who to contact

The Roundhouse will take the following approach if external agencies need to be involved:

- **Protection and Welfare Concerns:** inform Social Services in the borough in which the young person / adult at risk lives.
- **Criminal offence committed against a young person or adult at risk:** inform the police in the borough in which the offence has occurred.

3.7. Information Sharing and Confidentiality

The Roundhouse is committed to the safe and secure management of confidential information, as detailed in the organisation's GDPR Policy, however data protection legislation is not a barrier to sharing reasonable safeguarding concerns.

If it is necessary to share information concerns with the Designated Safeguarding Officer or, in their absence, social services, to prevent a young person or adult at risk from suffering neglect or physical, mental or emotional harm then that information must be shared.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer will make the decision as to whether it is appropriate to contact the parents or guardians of the young person. This decision may be taken with advice from external agencies.

4. Consent

Safeguarding procedures should not normally be used without the adult's knowledge and consent.

The adult at risk must always be asked what they want to happen, unless:

- this would increase risks for them or someone else
- they have been assessed as lacking capacity to make the necessary decisions

Exceptions: Acting Without the Person's Consent

The only exceptions to the requirement that the adult at risk consents to using the safeguarding process are:

- If the adult lacks capacity to make decisions necessary for the safeguarding process
- If safeguarding would be a matter of vital or public interest, even though it is against the person's wishes and / or there is evidence the person is under undue pressure to withhold consent

4.1 Public and Vital Interest

Public Interest – An Adult at Risk has the mental capacity to refuse a referral however the Designated Safeguarding Officer may have a duty to trigger a Safeguarding Concern to prevent harm to others.

Vital Interest – Vital interest is if there is threat to life or limb, then the Designated Safeguarding Officer can make a referral to adult social care without the consent of the Adult at Risk.

4.2 Getting consent to make a referral

The Safeguarding Officer will:

- Speak with the Adult at Risk privately and get their views on what has happened and what they want done about it and support them to ask questions about issues of confidentiality.
- Provide the Adult at Risk with information on the Safeguarding Adults process and how it may make them safer.
- Determine whether the Adult at Risk has the capacity to make decisions relating to their safety, or whether an appropriate decision maker needs to be contacted.

4.3 Making a decision not to refer

If the Adult at Risk has the capacity and does not consent to a referral and there are no public or vital interest considerations the Safeguarding Officer will:

- Provide information to the Adult at Risk about where they can get help if they change their mind or if the abuse or neglect continues and they subsequently want to promote their safety.
- Make a record of the concern, the Adult at Risk's decision and of the decision not to refer, with reasons.

4.4 Making a decision to refer without consent

The Safeguarding Officer will make a referral if there is an overriding public interest or vital interest or if gaining consent would put the Adult at further risk, a referral must be made. This would include situations where:

- other people or Children could be at risk from the person causing harm

- it is necessary to prevent a crime
- where there is a high risk to the health and safety of the Adult at Risk
- the person lacks capacity to consent
- Make a referral without consent if the alleged abuser is also an Adult at Risk or a Child (under 18) at Risk.

In all circumstances where a referral is made without consent the Safeguarding Officer will inform the Adult at Risk and explain the reasons unless telling them would jeopardise their safety or the safety of others. If the Adult at Risk is considered to not have the mental capacity to make a decision relating to their safety, and if no appropriate decision maker is available such as a parent or carer the Safeguarding Officer will proceed with a referral to the Adult Social Care Access and Response Team in accordance with the provisions set out in the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

5. Mental Capacity

The Mental Capacity Act (2005) provides a statutory framework to empower and protect people who may lack capacity to make decisions for themselves and establishes a framework for making decisions on their behalf.

The presumption is that Adults have the mental capacity to make informed choices about their own safety and how they live their lives.

This includes their ability:

- to understand the implications of their situation
- to take action themselves to prevent abuse
- to participate to the fullest extent possible in decision making about interventions.

Further, a person is not able to make a decision if they are unable to:

- understand the information relevant to the decision
- retain that information long enough to make a decision
- use or weigh that information as part of the process of making the decision

- communicate their decision (whether by talking, using sign language or by any other means such as muscle movements, blinking an eye or squeezing a hand)

Mental capacity is time and decision specific. This means that a person may be able to make some decisions but not others at a particular point in time. Their ability to make a decision may fluctuate over time.

6. Prevent Policy

The aim of the Government's Prevent Strategy is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. In the Act this has simply been expressed as the need to have "*due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism*". Prevent covers international and domestic terrorist threats, and includes the activities of far right groups and animal rights groups.

The Roundhouse will raise concerns with appropriate authorities as part of its Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy, if it is identified that any young person / adult at risk is expressing vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs on any of its programmes.

7. Learning, Monitoring and Review

The Roundhouse will continually review and evaluate its Safeguarding practice in line with the Safeguarding Review Procedure. The Associate Director of Young People will report to the Business, Audit and Risk Committee (BAR) for the trustee board summarising departmental evaluations, analysing safeguarding data and trends, and identifying any key areas for improvement and headlines.

8. Supporting our Participants

8.1. Participant Recruitment

The Roundhouse will seek to collect relevant information relating to medical and support needs prior to participation in order to assess and support participant needs in order to ensure they are safe on our programmes.

8.2. Participant Code of Conduct and Behaviour Management

Participants in our programmes will receive information about how to keep themselves safe whilst participating in the programme and the expected standards of behaviour as part of the Roundhouse Young Creatives Code of Conduct, Young people who do not follow this will be managed through relevant processes.

9. Supporting our Staff

9.1. Staff Recruitment

The Roundhouse operates a Safe Recruitment Policy, based on best practice, that is applicable to all roles irrespective of contract type and is overseen by the People and Culture Director and Associate Director of Young People.

9.2. Staff Training

The Roundhouse ensures that staff are able to fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities more effectively by providing a comprehensive induction and ongoing training relevant to their roles. There is a Safeguarding Training Matrix for details of training requirements depending on role and responsibilities. These will be organised and monitored by the Associate Director of Young People who will record participation and completion.

9.3. Probation

Staff cannot pass their probation without all relevant safe recruitment checks being signed off.

9.4 Professional Conduct

The Roundhouse expects all staff to behave in a professional manner when working with our participants. This may differ depending on role and the level of engagement with young people and adults at risk; it includes use of social media and professional appearance. The Roundhouse's Safer Working Practice: Guidance for Staff who work with Children and Adults at Risk (see Appendix D). provides clear advice on appropriate and safe behaviours for all Staff working with Young People. All staff are required to adhere to the document as part of the Roundhouse's Safeguarding Children and Young People and Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policies.

10. Dealing with Allegations

10.1 Allegations Against Staff

Any allegation that an employee or volunteer has behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed a participant, will be taken seriously and dealt with sensitively and promptly. There is a separate procedure for dealing with allegations against staff and volunteers.

11. Whistleblowing

The Roundhouse has a clear whistleblowing procedure, referenced in staff training and codes of conduct, and promotes a culture that enables issues about safeguarding and the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk to be addressed. Concerns about any form of malpractice are to be raised with the People Team.

12. The use of Photography, Video Footage and Broadcasting of Young People

Written consent to take and use images of Young People should be obtained prior to the taking of photographs and/or video footage. Where images of Young People are being mass produced or highly prominent, comprehensive information regarding use of images e.g. in print, multimedia, broadcast; and what purpose e.g. promotion, publicity, evaluation; and where possible an indication of who the audience will be e.g. the general public, the participating Young People and their families, and partner organisations, are to be communicated as part of Informed Consent processes. Young People's names should not appear with any images posted online.

12.1 Photographing / Filming Young People

If the Roundhouse is commissioning a professional photographer / filmmaker or inviting the press to an event, it is important that they understand our expectations of them in relation to safeguarding.

The Roundhouse will:

- Provide a clear brief about what is considered appropriate in the content of the photography / video footage.
- Issue them with identification that they must display at all times.
- Inform Young People and parents/guardians that a photographer / filmmaker will be present at the event and ensure they consent in writing to filming and/or photography and to its publication.
- Do not allow photographers / filmmakers unsupervised access to Young People or one-to-one photo sessions during the event.
- Do not approve photo / filming sessions outside the events or at a participant's home.

The Roundhouse must obtain written permission for the filming/photographs to be taken of young people.

12.2 Broadcasting and Internet

Broadcasting and social media internet usage are legitimate teaching aids. However, when it is used the Roundhouse will ensure that Young People and their parents/carers understand that it is part of the creative project or course. We will also ensure that Young People are equipped to protect themselves when engaging with the internet independently and/or as part of a project. Photographs of Young People on websites can pose direct or indirect risks. For example, images accompanied by personal information - 'this is X who likes to sing' - could be used by an individual to learn more about a Young Person prior to 'grooming' them for abuse. Or the content of the photo could be used or adapted for inappropriate use.

The Roundhouse will make careful decisions about the type of images / video footage that represent our arts activities with Young People. When assessing risk, the most important factor is the potential of inappropriate use of the images and video footage. The Roundhouse will ensure that e-safety guidelines are disseminated and put into practice.

Areas that should be considered prior to use of images / video footage:

- Does the material made promote illegal or dangerous activities?
- Is the material produced at risk of being misconstrued when taken out of the context of the workshop or event?
- Does the material discriminate against an individual or group on the grounds of sex, race, colour, creed, ethnic/national origins, sexual orientations, class, age, disability, marital status and those caring for dependants?
- Does the material endanger any of the Young People in the image / video footage?
- Have the parents of Young People under the age of 16 provided written consent for this footage to be used in the public realm e.g. on the internet?
- Have the Young People provided written consent for this footage to be used in the public realm?
- Photographs / video footage of young people under the age of 16 will not include names

13. Premises Management

The Paul Hamlyn Roundhouse Studios and Roundhouse Works are dedicated spaces for young people aged 11- 30 years of age. Whilst we recognise these facilities cater for both minors and young adults we have made reasonable efforts to ensure that all persons benefiting from our services can do so in a safe and supported way. We therefore exercise due diligence through:

- Ensuring all activities, facilities and equipment available to Young People are appropriate and risk assessed.
- All adults in a position of trust (where we employ, play host to, or contract the services of an adult) have controlled access to these spaces which are monitored by Duty Managers and Youth Work Staff.
- Appropriate pre-employment vetting, training / briefings and access to information is provided.
- Where unregulated activity e.g. events involving members of the public are taking part in the studios safeguarding risks and appropriate control measures as detailed in the Roundhouse Studios Youth Activities Operating Plan and Roundhouse Works Youth Activities Operating Plan are enacted.

- Briefing Young People about codes of conduct and establishing behavioural agreements with them e.g. use of illicit substances, bullying or threatening behaviour to Staff or their peers

13.1. External Hires (for any space on the Roundhouse Estate)

External hiring organisations and individuals are responsible for the children, young people and adults at risk in their care and must follow their own Safeguarding / Child Protection / Adults at Risk policy. The group contact is the designated responsible person for the participants and should always ensure compliance with supervision ratios and chaperones as stipulated in the hire contract / service level agreement.