



BARKING SPIDER VISUAL THEATRE – A CHILD SAFE ORGANISATION

Barking Spider Visual Theatre is committed to the safety and well-being of all children and young people and recognises their essential role in most of our projects. We involve children and young people as collaborators, instigators and as audience. Our company is dedicated to enabling children and young people to have creative agency and control. Barking Spider Visual Theatre encourages children and young people to express any views they have on safety and harm. We listen to and have deep respect for what children and young people have to say, especially about matters that directly affect them. Barking Spider Visual Theatre recognises that all children and young people have a right to feel safe. We uphold zero tolerance for child abuse of any form.

Barking Spider Visual Theatre is committed to:

- Promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of all children and young people. We believe in the power of the arts to transform children and young people's lives, fuelling imagination, curiosity and creativity in a safe and nurturing environment.
- Creating an organisational culture of child safety by ensuring robust practices and policies that support our team of artists in keeping children and young people safe.
- Ensuring all safety concerns and allegations of suspected child abuse are treated seriously and are guided by our legal and moral obligations.
- Welcoming all children and young people, their families and carers. We are committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and young people and children and young people from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds. We provide a safe and nurturing environment for children and young people with disabilities.
- Barking Spider Visual Theatre will not hesitate to take action to protect children and young people from physical, sexual, emotional, psychological and cultural harm. We also support the rights and well-being of our artists and encourage their active participation in building and maintaining a secure environment for all children and young people involved in Barking Spider Visual Theatre's projects and activities.
- Creating age-appropriate content and asking age-appropriate questions, for all participants.
- Carefully selecting any technologies and/or platforms for use of privacy and security settings, and with child safety in mind.

- Providing clear and accessible information to parents/carers, and children and young people about policies and procedures.
- If emailing, we contact children and young people through parents/carers only.
- Obtaining appropriate consent from children and young people and their parents or carers for any use of their images or personal information.
- Always having two adults (Barking Spider Visual artists or project staff) present unless there is direct permission from parents/carers to do otherwise.
- Creating clear and accessible instructions.
- Storing any recordings safely, securely and confidentially. Any data collected by Barking Spider Visual Theatre is downloaded to Barking Spider Visual 's private hard drive. This information is not shared outside of the organisation unless consent has been formally given.
- In the case of any data being shared, ensuring that all children and young people are de-identified so that the child's/young person's name is not connected to that data.
- Providing a clear reporting process for children and young people and/or parents/carers with concerns about any content or behaviour, if in future we use an interactive online platform.

Direct communication with Barking Spider Visual Theatre about any of the above, or any concerns about child safety during Barking Spider Visual Theatre's projects or sessions should be made to:

**Penelope Bartlau | Artistic Director
barkingspidertheatre@gmail.com**