

PAN DORSET INTER-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES

CHAPTER 4

4.3 CHILD PERFORMANCE WORKING PRACTICE GUIDANCE

*Any comments or suggestions regarding these procedures should be forwarded to your agency representative on the Pan Dorset Policy and Procedures Group.*

PAN DORSET CHILD PERFORMANCE WORKING PRACTICE POLICY  
BOURNEMOUTH, DORSET AND POOLE LOCAL AUTHORITIES

1. A child may have up to three days absence from school in order to take part in a performance without the need for a license if no payment is made to the child or any other person. If a performance lasts for more than 3 days a performance license will be required to authorise further absence from school.
2. The **issuing of a license** allows the school to authorise the school absence incurred. The school and the producer can be assured that all the necessary checks have been made by a local authority officer during the production to ensure compliance.
3. A Child Performance License may be obtained from the Child Performance Licensing Officer for Bournemouth at [www.bournemouth.gov.uk](http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk) 'Children and Learning' and then 'Child Employment etc'.
4. A Child Performance License may be obtained from the Child Performance Licensing Officer in Poole on 01202 261937.
5. A Child Performance License may be obtained from the Child Performance Licensing Officer for Dorset, who can be contacted on 01305 224832.
6. If no performance license is required, there is no need to use an approved chaperone. However, it is recommended that producers of short-lived voluntary or amateur productions are advised by the local authority of the importance of devising and implementing an approved **child protection policy**.
7. A chaperone may only be approved in connection with a performance or performances where child licenses are required. Their registration will be restricted to productions in connection with a specified dance or drama group, and will be for a maximum period of a year. Approval of chaperones will require an Enhanced Level CRB check, an interview and relevant references. Good practice dictates that the local authority will offer regular training sessions on the role and responsibilities of a chaperone, including child protection training.
8. Child performance licenses may be issued for a maximum number of days over a specified **six month period** in connection with long-running film or television productions. However, the license will only be valid if the producer has notified the local authority of exact dates and locations beforehand.
9. The three named local authorities, together with Hampshire County Council, are in the process of developing clear guidelines to enable them to grant **Approved Body** status to local groups. This will be relevant to those groups who regularly produce short-lived amateur shows and have a proven record of good practice. Approval will be given for one year maximum (renewable).