

# When Young Performers Need More Than a Chaperone...



On every film and television set, there are people responsible for working with young actors. But here's the problem: almost none of them are trained to combine safeguarding a child's wellbeing, coordinate their needs cross-departmentally and support them to deliver the powerful, authentic performances that directors need.

This gap has caused immeasurable damage to young performers across the entertainment industry. When children are asked to perform emotionally complex, distressing, or sensitive scenes without proper support, the consequences can follow them for a lifetime. Their first kiss should come with butterflies in their stomach — not in a staged spin-the-bottle scene. Their understanding of trauma, intimacy, or loss should unfold at their own pace — not be rushed in service of a storyline.

*...There is a better way.*

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## INTRODUCING THE WORLD'S FIRST: YOUNG PERFORMER SUPPORT SPECIALIST (YPS) TRAINING

Safe Sets, a global leader in Intimacy Coordination and On-Set Safety Training, is proud to launch the **first-ever Young Performer Support Specialist (YPS) Training Course** in early 2026.

This groundbreaking program directly responds to decades of abuse and neglect in the entertainment industry by creating a new specialist role: a trained on-set professional who protects young actors while empowering them to deliver thrilling, truthful performances, without exposing them to age-inappropriate or harmful.

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**“It is critical to remember that the actor is a child first and a performer second  
- everything must be done with this frame of mind.”**

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A Young Performer Support Specialist uses imaginative play, creative coaching, and trauma-informed practice to create a safe space where child actors feel respected, empowered, and protected. Working alongside the director and production team from pre-production through post-production, the YPS ensures that each young performer is cradled in their innocence and met at their specific point of development, while enabling directors to achieve the emotional depth their scenes require.

**A child's well-being should never be sacrificed for art. Trauma is never collateral damage.**

**“It is not about the abuse we quote,  
but the practical steps we put in place to make sure we have no abuse to mention in the future.”**

## WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

This intensive, first-of-its-kind training equips you with:

- Purposeful play techniques
- Performance architecture strategies
- Creative coaching tools
- Trauma-informed on-set protocols
- Step-in and step-out practices
- Pre-production preparation and post-production check-in strategies
- Tools to support directors in achieving authentic performances while protecting young actors

## Course Structure:

- **5 online modules** (3-hour sessions over 4 weeks)
- **4 days in-person training** (09:00-17:00, London, February 2026)
- **6 months of guided mentorship** from Safe Sets trainers
- Includes **Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)** certification

**Investment:** £2,750 (R63,000)

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## WHO SHOULD APPLY

This course is for practitioners ready to stand at the intersection of artistry, ethics, and genuine child-centered care. As the first program of its kind, we're looking for advocates who will actively promote and develop this specialist role in their countries and industries—with expert support from the Safe Sets team.

**Are you ready to help change the industry?**

**For more information and to apply, visit: [www.ssintimacycoordinators.com](http://www.ssintimacycoordinators.com)**

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**“Productions now recognise that working with minors requires more than  
logistical compliance - it demands emotional intelligence, clear  
communication, and trauma-informed care.”**