

The New Streetly Youth Orchestra

Safeguarding Policy Document

Safeguarding Policy Statement

The New Streetly Youth Orchestra is committed to practice which protects children from harm. Leaders and all volunteers in this organisation accept and recognise our responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause children and young adult's harm.

The welfare of each orchestra member is our primary consideration. We want each member to achieve their full potential within the musical and social development which is provided by the organisation.

We recognise that we have a special duty of care towards all our members. We want to provide them with a safe, supportive and listening environment in which they can thrive.

In particular:

- To establish and maintain an environment in which the welfare of our young people is paramount
- To ensure that policies and procedures protect young people from harm
- To ensure that all concerns and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to appropriately

The purposes of this policy are:

- To set out how we will safeguard and protect young people
- To give guidance to all leaders, members, and volunteers about the procedures they should adopt
 - a. to help keep members safe
 - b. when they suspect that a young person may be experiencing or is at risk of harm

Safeguarding principles

We will endeavour to safeguard young people by:

- Treating them with respect and celebrating their achievements
- Adopting policy guidelines through a code of practice for orchestra leaders
- Sharing information and communicating information about safeguarding with parents, members and orchestra leaders.
- Reporting information about concerns with those who need to know and involve parents and members appropriately.

- On boarding leaders and volunteers safely ensuring all necessary checks are in place and providing appropriate support through guidance and supervision.
- Assessing risk in relation to all its activities, focusing on prevention and minimising risks
- Reviewing our policy and practice periodically

Our responsibilities towards our members

We value the welfare of our members and accept that we have responsibilities:

- To protect them from sexual, emotional and physical abuse.
- To screen anyone coming into regular contact with them.
- To support their parents and carers.
- To treat them with dignity and respect at all times.

Particularly we will:

- Take any allegations or suspicions of abuse seriously and respond to them swiftly and appropriately.
- Seek to provide pastoral care where appropriate to all those who may be affected by such an allegation.

Our responsibilities towards all orchestra leaders and volunteers

We support them by:

- Equip them through regular guidance to protect both children and themselves by encouraging good practice and good relationships with children.
- Provide them with clear guidelines on preventing situations where child abuse could arise and what to do if such abuse is disclosed or suspected.

The Designated Safeguarding Co-ordinator

The orchestra will appoint one leader to specifically:

- Receive information from leaders, volunteers or members who have safeguarding concerns, and record it
- Assess information promptly and carefully
- Be available for support and advice if disclosure, suspicion or allegation of abuse is reported.
- Be responsible for a confidential record system for forms, references and related files.
- Liaise and consult, where necessary, with local statutory safeguarding agencies
- Liaise with the orchestra leadership on areas of concern.
- The Management Committee Chair The Chair will work closely with the Designated Safeguarding Person and will be aware of the screening and