

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Our safeguarding policy

This policy applies to all members of the Sandwich Concert Band, including volunteers and paid staff.

The purpose of this policy:

- To protect children and young people who receive Sandwich Concert Band's services
- To provide band members, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection

Sandwich Concert Band believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to operate in a way that protects them.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Children Act 1989
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Relevant government guidance on safeguarding children

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Adopting child protection practices through procedures and a code of conduct
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with staff and volunteers
- Sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately

Code of Conduct:

All members of Sandwich Concert Band are expected to:

- Respect everyone as an individual
- Set a good example in their own behaviour
- Respect everyone's right to privacy
- Show understanding when dealing with sensitive issues
- Adhere to the organisation's policies
- Abide by UK laws

Members of Sandwich Concert Band must never:

- Permit abusive behaviour
- Have inappropriate physical contact with others
- Jump to conclusions or make inappropriate assumptions about others without checking facts
- Encourage inappropriate behaviour
- Show favouritism to anyone
- Make suggestive or inappropriate remarks or actions
- Deliberately place themselves or others in a compromising situation

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on *17th February 2016*

Signed *Signature on file* Kate Robinson, Chair, Sandwich Concert Band