

Behaviour code for children and young people

Abergavenny Orchestral Society

This code has been developed in order to provide children and young people with advice on the behaviour that is expected of them when attending activities organised by, and using the services of, Abergavenny Orchestral Society.

Purpose

To ensure children and young people are treated fairly by all adults working with them at Abergavenny Orchestral Society, and know what is expected of them.

Basic principles

This code of behaviour for children and young people is intended to:

- identify acceptable behaviour for children and young people;
- promote self-respect and self-control;
- encourage individual responsibility for behaviour and outline the consequences of poor behaviour;
- encourage children and young people to recognise and respect the rights of others;
- encourage co-operation at all times and in all situations;
- promote the values of honesty, fairness and respect;
- anticipate and resolve any conflict that may arise;
- ensure children and young people are aware of when sanctions will be put into place.

Dos and don'ts

Children and young people are expected to:

- co-operate with others
- be friendly
- listen to each other
- be helpful
- follow this code of behaviour and other rules
- stick to the e-safety policy and agreement when using the Internet, social networking sites, mobile phones etc.
- have good manners
- join in
- respect each other's differences
- treat all adult members with respect
- report anything that worries or concerns them to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), their deputy, or the Chairman.

Children and young people should not:

- pick on, or make fun of, others
- bully others
- stare at others
- yell or shout at others

- be abusive
- use equipment to be abusive or to cyberbully – for example, by using mobile phones to send nasty messages, taking and sharing photos without permission, sending nasty e-mails, or “trolling” (leaving unkind comments on a webpage or social network profile).

Breach of this code of conduct

This code of conduct is only useful if it forms part of a process for guiding children and young people to receive appropriate support.

It is the responsibility of the DSL to ensure that all children and young people attending Abergavenny Symphony Orchestra are informed of this code of conduct and to confirm with them that they have seen, understood and agreed to follow it. Children and young people must also be made aware of the consequences if they breach the code.

Following the traffic light system

1. If a child or young person breaches the code of conduct, the most appropriate sanction for a minor or first time breach will be to remind him or her about the code of conduct and ask him or her to comply with it. Children and young people will be given the opportunity to reflect, enabling them to plan a positive response, with support from appropriate adult members;
2. If, having followed the above step, the child or young person continues to exhibit inappropriate behaviour, she or he should be referred to the appropriate member who will give her or him a formal, green light warning;
Supportive interventions may need to be identified at this stage. The action should also be recorded and kept confidentially in a secure location, and parents/carers informed;
3. Any further persistent inappropriate behaviour will result in a more serious sanction being imposed (e.g. restriction/suspension from the orchestra’s facilities). This is the yellow light warning;
Again, supportive interventions may need to be identified at this stage. This action should also be recorded
4. If these interventions are still not effective in helping the child/young person to change his or her behaviour, a red light warning may be needed, with further sanctions. It may be that at this point, Abergavenny Orchestral Society will discuss with the child or young person and his or her family a possible referral for further support from other services.

Use of child protection procedures

If an adult member of Abergavenny Orchestral Society becomes concerned that a child’s behaviour suggests either that they may be at risk of harm or that they may present a risk of harm to others, Abergavenny Orchestral Society’s child protection procedures will be followed and a referral may be made to the local authority children’s social care department and/or the police.

Such a referral would be discussed with the child and their family at the earliest possible opportunity, **except** in situations where this would possibly endanger a child's safety or interfere with a police investigation.

Key People

Designated Safeguarding Lead: **Heather Leighton**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: **Bethan Barlow**

Chairman: **Peter Geraghty**