

Child Protection Policy

Abergavenny Orchestral Society

This policy applies to all members of Abergavenny Orchestral Society, the Musical Director, and the Leader. It also applies to other people working with Abergavenny Orchestral Society, or participating in activities or events organised by Abergavenny Orchestral Society. Hereafter referred to as Members and Associates

The purpose of this policy is:

- to protect children and young people who participate in activities of Abergavenny Orchestral Society. This includes the children of adults who participate;
- to provide Members and Associates with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection;

Abergavenny Orchestral Society 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 practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that unsuitable individuals sometimes seek out opportunities via paid or voluntary work to have contact with children in order to harm them. We will undertake the necessary checks on all Members and Associates in positions of trust (Musical Director, Leader, Trustees, Designated Safeguarding Lead, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, E-Safety Officer and First Aiders), ensuring they have an up-to-date relevant DBS check. We will make sure all people in such posts are made aware of the DBS online update service.

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 Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- General Data Protection Regulation 2016
- 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 developing and implementing effective policies, procedures and codes of conduct for all Members and Associates
- providing effective supervision and monitoring for all Members and Associates
- safely recruiting all Members and Associates in a position of responsibility, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, all Members and Associates
- sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately.

Monitoring and review

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of this policy. This policy will be reviewed every two years.

Date of last review:

Date of next review:

Signed:.....Designated Safeguarding Lead

Signed:.....Chairman