

# Chester Youth Symphony Orchestra

## SAFEGUARDING POLICY

This document is the Safeguarding Policy for the Chester Youth Symphony Orchestra, which will be followed by all the members of the organisation and followed and promoted by those in a position of leadership within the organisation.

The objectives of the Orchestra are as set out in the Constitution

It is appreciated that a young person may become vulnerable to abuse by adults. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the actions of any adult in the context of the activities of the orchestra are transparent and safeguard and promote the welfare of all young people.

The children and young people who play in the orchestra play in the company of adults. Children and young people may socialise with other children and young people during break times.

If any person, adult, parent or child has any concerns about any member of the organisation they should raise this in the first instance with Vicky Mercer, who is the designated Safeguarding Contact. The designated Deputy Safeguarding Contact is Allan Wright.

### **Principles upon which the Safeguarding Policy is based.**

- \* The welfare of a child or young person will always be paramount.
- \* The welfare of families will be promoted
- \* The rights, wishes and feelings of children, young people and their families will be respected and listened to.
- \* Those people in positions of responsibility within the organisation will work in accordance with the interests of children and young people and follow the policy outlined below.
- \* Those people in positions of responsibility within the organisation will ensure that the same opportunities are available to everyone and that all differences between individuals will be treated with respect.

### **Immediate action to ensure safety**

Immediate action may be necessary at any stage in involvement with children and families.

IN ALL CASES IT IS VITAL TO TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IS NEEDED TO SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN

\* If emergency medical attention is required this can be secured by calling an ambulance (dial 999) or taking a child to the nearest Accident and Emergency department

\* If a child is in immediate danger the police should be contacted (dial 999) as they alone have the power to remove a child immediately if protection is necessary via Police

### **Recognition of Abuse or Neglect**

Abuse can occur and does occur in many different situations. Indications of a child being abused can be difficult to recognise. As an organisation there is a duty of care to respond to inappropriate behaviour, poor practise as well as reporting suspicions, allegations or disclosures. Some children also abuse other children. There is growing evidence to suggest that peer abuse is an increasing concern.

There are 4 main forms of abuse: - Neglect, Physical abuse, Sexual and Emotional abuse.

**Reporting Procedures** All complaints, suspicions, allegations and disclosures will be reported to the Safeguarding Contact who will record any incident and take appropriate action. Parents or carers will be informed in all instances unless circumstances indicate otherwise. Any records made will be kept confidentially and in a secure place.

**Photography/Video Imaging** Occasionally, photographs or videos may be used for promotion of the orchestra or for reporting in the press. Parents and carers will be asked for permission for their child on the child's first joining the orchestra and in each subsequent September as part of the registration process.

**Communication of the Policy** This policy will be available for all members of orchestra, parents and carers to view as it will be displayed on our website, ([cyso.org.uk](http://cyso.org.uk))

**Keeping up to Date** The Safeguarding Contact will ensure that this Safeguarding Policy is kept up to date in accordance with current legislation and best practice. To that end, attendance on courses related to Safeguarding may be required.

**Review** The Policy will be reviewed regularly and at least once a year.

15 June 2014