

1. General

This document is the Safeguarding Policy for the Jan Modelski Community 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

- To provide the opportunity for people of all ages to play in the Orchestra
- To extend the opportunity to play in an orchestral environment to the wider community.
- To advance Musical Education and appreciation of Orchestra

Definition of a vulnerable person (Ref: Making Music):

1. Children up to the age of 16 or young people aged 16-18
2. Adults over 18 including those with a learning or physical disability, physical or mental illness, those with addictions to alcohol or drugs.

We know that being a vulnerable person makes them 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 vulnerable people.

When vulnerable persons attend the JMCO Orchestras there are always responsible adults present during rehearsal and breaks.

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 Cathryn Dutton, the designated safeguarding contact.

2. Principles

- The welfare of vulnerable people will always be paramount.
- The welfare of families will be promoted.
- The rights, wishes and feelings of vulnerable 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 vulnerable 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.

3.Actions

Take the necessary steps to safeguard vulnerable people **at** rehearsals and concerts.

Collect relevant consent forms from carers/parents.

Liaise with local council child licensing officer on performance licence for children.

4 Review

The Policy will be reviewed annually in November.

5. General

Immediate action to ensure safety

Immediate action may be necessary at any stage of involvement with vulnerable people.

IN ALL CASES, IT IS VITAL TO TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IS NEEDED TO SAFEGUARD THEM

- If emergency medical attention is required this can be secured by calling an ambulance (dial 999) or taking a person 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

Types of abuse

Abuse can occur and does occur in many different situations. Indications of a vulnerable person being abused can be difficult to recognise. As an organisation there is a duty of care to respond to inappropriate behaviour or poor practice 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, sexual and emotional abuse.

Bullying is deliberate harmful behaviour repeated over a period of time. Any form of bullying should be reported to the safeguarding contact.

It is for individuals to determine what behaviour is acceptable to them and what they regard as offensive. It is the unwanted nature of the conduct that distinguishes harassment from acceptable behaviour.

Reporting Procedures.

All complaints, suspicions, allegations and disclosures will be reported to the safeguarding contact who will record any incident and take appropriate action so long as they themselves have not been involved in the incident. Committee members should be consulted to decide an appropriate course of 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

Photographs or videos will only be used for promotion of the orchestra or reporting in the press if parents or carers have given their permission, which is routinely sought at the time of becoming a member.

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 notice board.