

Cotswold Edge Brass Festival

This policy applies to all staff, including tutors, volunteers, paid staff and anyone working on behalf of the **Cotswold Edge Brass Festival**

The purpose of this policy is:

- to protect children and young people who are musicians within the Cotswold Edge Brass Festival.
- to provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

The Cotswold Edge Brass Festival 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 in our care and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice 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/young person 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 the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of their level of dependency or their communication needs
- working in partnership with children, young people and their parents or carers is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting the children in our care
- adopting child protection practices through procedures and a code of contact for staff and volunteers
- developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy and related procedures
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision and support
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made and current DBS certificates held
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with parents, staff and volunteers
- sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately.

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

This policy was last reviewed on 8 April 2016