

Music for Everyone **Safeguarding Policy — overview**



Commitment to safeguarding: Music for Everyone believes that a child, young person or adult at risk should never experience abuse of any kind. We recognise that we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk. We are committed to safeguarding the well-being of all children, young people and adults at risk we come into contact with and to protect them from harm.

About this policy

- This policy applies to: all members, staff (whether employees or freelancers), volunteers and anyone working on behalf of Music for Everyone or taking part in Music for Everyone activities.
- The purpose of this policy is to provide members, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to the protection of all vulnerable people
- This policy recognises vulnerable people as:
 - Children up to the age of 16 and young people aged 16-18.
 - Adults aged over 18 at risk as defined by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006. This might include adults with a learning or physical disability, a physical or mental illness, chronic or otherwise, including an addiction to alcohol or drugs, or reduced physical or mental capacity. This policy also recognises risk is determined by the activity an adult is taking part in and not solely on the personal characteristics or circumstances of the adult, as such any adult can be at risk, and the risk can be temporary.
- This policy aims to:
 - Protect children, young people and adults at risk who are: members of, receive services from, take part in activities organised by or volunteer for, Music for Everyone.
 - Ensure members, staff and volunteers working with children, young people and adults at risk are carefully recruited and understand and accept responsibility for the safeguarding of those vulnerable individuals they are interacting with.
 - Ensure that safeguarding of children, young people and adults at risk is a primary consideration when Music for Everyone undertakes any activity, event or project.

How Music for Everyone might work with vulnerable people: access to courses, groups and activities is open to those of primary school age and above, and to groups of adults at risk. We run regular rehearsals and courses and put on concerts for the general public. As such our involvement with vulnerable people might include, but is not limited to:

- Members of the group who attend rehearsals, courses and concerts
- Relatives and friends of members who attend rehearsals and concerts in a volunteering capacity
- Audience members at public concerts

Named safeguarding leads: Youth Music Programme Coordinator, Kirstie Hind, and Chair of the Board of Trustees, John Hess, have responsibility for safeguarding issues. All queries and concerns relating to safeguarding should be referred to Kirstie Hind in the first instance.

Any projects, events or other activities that will involve vulnerable people must be planned with the involvement of Kirstie Hind and in line with established procedures and ground rules (see below).

Training: there is an expectation that staff, volunteers and trustees undertake training at a level appropriate to their role, for example an applicable NSPCC e-training course, or similar.

Procedures and ground rules: A further document – ‘Ground rules, ways of working and procedures’ is available and forms part of this policy.

Policy review: This policy will be reviewed and amended (if necessary) on an annual basis by the Board of Trustees. It will also be reviewed in response to changes in relevant legislation, good practice, or in response to an identified failing in its effectiveness.

Date approved by Trustees: 15th February 2024