

Safeguarding Policy Statement for Under 18s

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

Leeds Conservatoire works with under 18s as part of its activities. These include a Saturday School, a Summer Academy summer school, open days, audition days, school visits, campus tours and various short courses/workshops throughout the year.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- To protect children and young people who receive Leeds Conservatoire's services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services
- To provide staff and volunteers, as well as children and young people and their families, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.
- This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of [name of group/organisation], including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students.

Legal framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from [nspcc.org.uk/childprotection](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/childprotection).

Procedure

The policy is effected by appropriate procedures and guidance which are reviewed and signed off by the relevant Head of Department annually, for example:

- Safeguarding procedures dealing with disclosures and concerns about a child or young person
- Health and Safety Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy Statement
- 'Prevent' Risk Assessment
- Staff Recruitment & Selection Procedures
- Staff Disciplinary Policy and Procedures
- Staff Grievance Policy and Procedures
- Code of Conduct: Relationships Between Staff & Students

- Behaviour Code for Staff, Visiting Practitioners, and Volunteers Working With Under 18s
- LJC Guidelines on Physical Touch
- LJC Guidelines on appropriate communication
- LJC Student Behaviour Code
- Photography and Sharing Images Guidance
- Remote Learning Policy
- LJC Anti-Bullying Statement
- Visitors to Leeds Conservatoire Sign in Procedures
- Child on child abuse

These procedures and guidance are available online or by request to Junior@lcm.ac.uk

We believe that:

- Children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

Research

We recognise that:

- The welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to 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
- Extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff and volunteers

- Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.
- Recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Recording and storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance
- Making sure that children, young people and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern
- Using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- Building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children, young people and their families, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details

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