

Dodington Parish Band, (referred to as “The Band”)

Statement for Safeguarding Children, Young People, and Vulnerable Adults

This statement applies to all members of Dodington Parish Band, volunteers and non-members acting on behalf of Dodington Parish Band, (referred to as “Band Persons”).

It is the responsibility of all Band Persons to act in a fair and proper manner and in accordance with this Statement.

The Band is committed to the welfare of all children young people and vulnerable adults attending the Band. The Band's Constitution, Code of Conduct and website acknowledge the importance of Safeguarding.

Band persons need to have an understanding of what forms abuse may take and how to act if abuse is suspected or reported – see below.

Purpose of this Statement

To protect and safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults involved with The Band from abuse.

To provide Band Persons with the principles that guide our approach to child protection and the protection of vulnerable adults.

To raise understanding and awareness by sharing information about the forms of abuse (including bullying) of children, young people and vulnerable adults within the organisation including online and through social media.

To protect The Band's own reputation.

Legal Framework

This policy is based on law and guidance principally The Children's Act 1989 and "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018". Full list – see Appendix.

Procedures

The Band will seek to keep children, young people and vulnerable adults safe by:

- Providing an open environment with a "no secrets" ethos by valuing, listening to and respecting people. A safe and honest environment will encourage reporting of any genuine concerns.
- Band Persons should be aware:
 - that the practice hall has public access whilst being used.
 - of potentially vulnerable situations, such as one-to-one. Examples are giving individual tuition and giving lifts. If this is needed, to make the situation transparent and involve someone else. (See Appendix)
 - not to communicate electronically (e.g., phone, email, social media) with the child, only the parent / carer.
 - that abusers could specifically use The Band to try and gain access to people at risk.
- For events outside the band room if a parent / carer is not in attendance a Responsible Adult will be appointed to supervise.
- Bullying is a type of abuse which The Band abhors and will take all steps to prevent and stop.
- Role of the Safeguarding Officer is to promote safeguarding and follow procedures, and ensure that Band Persons are aware. To record any concerns, consult with the Chairman and with Protection Agencies and Brass Bands England designated Safeguarding Officer. To be aware of local safeguarding provisions and arrange regular training, for themselves and other appropriate members.
The Safeguarding Officer can be contacted by email at safeguarding@dodingtonparishband.co.uk
- Role of the Committee is to ensure procedures are in place and review regularly in conjunction with the Safeguarding Officer, including any reports and establish whether any further training needs are identified.
- Role of the Chairman is to give advice and facilitate review of policies.

Definition of Abuse *(No Secrets: Department of Health, March 2000)*

"Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons".

Abuse includes:

- physical abuse;
- emotional and psychological abuse, belittling, name calling, preventing self expression, over controlling;
- sexual abuse;
- neglect;
- discriminatory abuse (including gender race colour language culture religion politics sexual orientation disability or age);
- financial or material abuse, stealing, selling assets;
- criminal exploitation, extremism, modern slavery.
- bullying – this is a repeated behaviour intending to harm others physically or emotionally. It can occur face to face or via technology.

Abuse may be carried out deliberately or unknowingly. Abuse may be a single act or repeated acts. It may be carried out via technology.

Adults may make the choice to remain in abusive situations and if they have the mental capacity to make that decision that may be appropriate. However the decision about mental capacity is a complex one and must involve the Safeguarding Officer or anonymous advice from the Local Authority.

People who behave abusively come from all backgrounds and walks of life. They could be professionals, volunteers, relatives, neighbours or others in a position of trust

Reporting Concerns

If any Band Person identifies ANY concerns about possible abuse it MUST be reported. This includes anyone within the Band who feels that he or she has been subjected to violence, exploitation or abuse or becomes aware of an individual who has been so affected.

When talking to a child who has disclosed possible abuse within or outside the Band reassure them that telling someone about it was the right thing to do. Let them tell their whole story and ask them what they would like to happen, but don't make any promises you can't keep. Explain that you will discuss the matter with the Band Safeguarding Officer. Offer Child Line 0800 1111. Write a report promptly for the Safeguarding Officer.

The matter should be reported to the Safeguarding Officer, the Chairman of The Band or any member of The Band Committee, or if necessary any Band Person can use the contact numbers below.

If there is immediate risk to an individual and/or if a crime has just been or is being committed call 999 to report the matter to the Police.

To report possible child abuse or for general advice regarding child abuse contact South Gloucestershire Council's Child Protection Line 01454 866000 or 01454 615165 out of hours, or NSPCC 0800 800 5000.

For vulnerable adult abuse contact South Gloucestershire Council's Customer Adult Care Team service desk on 01454 868007 or 01454 615165 out of hours.

Concerns should be shared with agencies who need to know, and involving parents, and children, young people and adults appropriately.

Vulnerable adults

A vulnerable Adult is someone who is or may be in need of care and support and is experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect and who is or may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from harm.

In the case of adults when dealing with suspected abuse their consent is required unless they lack capacity or vital interests are at stake.

Consent of an Adult with mental capacity is required if passing on information to an external agency.

Appendix

This policy has been drawn up based on law and guidance that seeks to protect children and adults at risk, namely:

- Children Act (1989)
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child (1991)
- Data Protection Act (1998) and subsequent data protection guidance
- Sexual Offences Act (2003)
- Children Act (2004)
- Protection of Freedoms Act (2012)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children: a guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; HM Government (2018)
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act (2006)
- The Human Rights Act (1998)
- The Children and Families Act (2014)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) code of practice: 0 to 25 years: statutory guidance for organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities; HM Government (2014)
- General Data Protection Regulations (European Union) (2017)
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers; HM Government (2015)
- The Care Act (2014)
- The Care Act (2014) Care and Support Statutory Guidance (specifically the safeguarding section of this)
- The Mental Capacity Act (2005)

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