



Severn Tunnel Band

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Child Protection Statement

The Severn Tunnel Band aims to provide a safe and supervised environment for musical activities. All adult members of the Severn Tunnel Band are responsible for the protection of young people, and must report any concerns for their well being to the Child Protection Officer.

The Committee will appoint a Child Protection Officer.

The Child Protection Officer will report any suspicions or allegations to Gwent Music Support Service Headquarters/Social Services/Police.

Working Practice.

- All children/young people will be treated with dignity and respect.
- Their personal privacy will be respected
- All members will be available to listen and ready to refer to someone more experienced.
- All members will be sensitive to the needs of others, and their likes/dislikes.
- All members will avoid questionable activity, e.g. rough/sexually provocative games and inappropriate language.

- Unacceptable behaviour will be challenged and all allegations/suspensions of abuse reported.
- Bullying is not tolerated.
- All members of the band will be made aware of this policy.
- An incident book will be kept to record any appropriate occurrences/reports.

Guidelines for Working with Young People

- Never run a practice session single handedly.
- Ensure all 'leaders' have completed a 'Disclosure' form or have undergone CRB checking
- Avoid one-to-one situations.
- Never offer to drive or walk a child or young person home alone without written parental agreement.
- Always try to ensure suitable ratio of adult to children, 1 for every 10 children.
- Try to ensure that there is an appropriate balance of male and female staff.
- Avoid physical contact.
- Never let a concern go unchallenged or unrecorded.
- Ensure all participants and their parents know who the Child Protection Officer is, and how to contact him/her.

Responding to a Child/Young Person

- Listen, and keep listening
- Do not ask questions.
- Do not promise confidentiality.
- Accept what you hear without passing judgement.
- Tell the child what you are going to do.
- Make careful notes.
- Do not discuss the problem with others.
- Try to ensure that no one is placed in a position, which could cause further compromise.