



Safeguarding Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect vulnerable people, particularly children, at risk adults and beneficiaries of assistance from any harm that may be caused due to their coming into contact with Hart and Soul Community Choir.

This policy also lays out the commitments made by Hart & Soul Community Choir and informs officers or other persons of their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding.

Safeguarding includes, but is not limited to, protection from harm arising from:

- The conduct of officers or other persons associated with Hart & Soul Community Choir
- The design and implementation of Hart & Soul Community Choir's programmes and activities

Responsibilities

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility where they have direct or indirect contact with children and vulnerable adults. Also those who have access to information about them have a responsibility to safeguard the health, welfare and any other interests of those individuals.

Hart & Soul Community Choir is a community choir with a wide variety of members and contacts in our local community. We commit to making appropriate arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of any children and vulnerable adults who are members of the choir or who attend any of our concerts or social events.

We aim to ensure that no act or omission on the part of the organisation, or that of its members, puts a child, young person or vulnerable adult inadvertently at risk; and that systems are in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of all members.

For Hart & Soul Community Choir this means that:-

1. A Safeguarding Officer will be appointed at such time that a need arises to safeguard a vulnerable individual. The appointee will be selected based upon criteria such as previous training and vetting status.
2. Our Safeguarding Officer shall be responsible for ensuring that up-to-date legislation and relevant policy and procedures are raised with the choir's Steering Group and any changes are adhered to by the choir.
3. This policy will be reviewed at least annually to ensure it remains in line with legislation and local / national safeguarding guidance.
4. Any relevant concerns raised with our Safeguarding Officer will be passed on to the appropriate Safeguarding Authorities, namely:-

Milton Keynes Safeguarding Children's Board: [Milton Keynes Safeguarding Children Board - Milton Keynes Council \(milton-keynes.gov.uk\)](https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/childrens-board)

Milton Keynes Safeguarding Adult's Board: [Safeguarding Adults and Children - Milton Keynes Council \(milton-keynes.gov.uk\)](https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/safeguarding-adults)

5. Any children invited to participate in a choir rehearsal or performance shall be accompanied by a parent or other adult responsible for their wellbeing.

If at all possible, any vulnerable adult will be accompanied by a chaperone. In order to avoid discrimination, if this is not possible the choir safeguarding officer will take responsibility.

Members, Friends, and invited musicians and soloists will all be made aware of this Policy.

This Policy will be reviewed annually at each Annual General Meeting.

Signed:

Position:

Date: