

Child Safeguarding Statement

1. Name of service being provided:

Julianstown Youth Orchestra (JYO)

2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm

The JYO provides an opportunity for Children of school going age to develop their musical skills through the participation and membership of the orchestra. The committee are totally committed to a safe and encouraging environment when attending rehearsals, performing at events locally, and when touring. The committee and parent volunteers are always on hand to supervise and ensure this safe environment is provided for.

We have a policy in place to ensure children's safeguarding. These are available on our website – www.jyo.ie. We have also appointed a Contact Liaison Person and 2 Club Children's Officer who have both received the appropriate training to fulfil these roles.

3. Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

| | Risk identified | Procedure in place to manage identified risk |
|---|------------------------|---|
| 1 | At rehearsals | Supervision by parent volunteers. Children not to leave rehearsal area during rehearsal (except for toilet breaks). Members of the public (not connected to orchestra) not allowed access to rehearsal area. |
| 2 | While performing | Off stage supervision by parents. |
| 3 | While on tour | Supervision by parent volunteers during travel, arrival, preparation, rehearsal, breaks, performance, pack-up and return home/pickup point. Additionally for overnight stays – supervision and parents volunteers present overnight at accommodation. |

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| | | Number of parents to accompany agreed and meet standard ratio. |
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| 4 | At social events organised by JYO | Supervision by parent volunteers. Number of parents to accompany agreed and meet standard ratio. |
| 5 | At lessons | Parents allowed to be present at lessons. |

4. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children* (2017), and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service;
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children;
 - Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla; • Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons;
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed will be available upon request.

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 14th March 2019, and afterwards if there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: _____ (Provider)
Lorraine O'Dwyer, Chairperson JYO Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.

Section 2: Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm:

The JYO provides the opportunity for children to play in an orchestra. Rehearsals are held once a week during normal school year at a local secondary school. There are two orchestras: Senior and Academy, who rehearse on a Friday evening. We have a very high calibre of musical directors and conductors

Orchestra rehearsals are held in an open area of the school and occasional sectional rehearsals are held in individual classrooms. The management structure of our organisation consists of a supervisory team for each orchestra. This includes a member of the committee and a number of volunteer parents. The JYO ensures that there is always members of the team present to supervise rehearsals.

While performing at events or on tour, an agreed ratio of parent volunteers to children work to ensure the safety of all children through supervision. This supervision takes place while travelling to venues by public or private transport, arrival preparation, day-of-performance rehearsal, breaks for refreshments and meals through to actual performance and finally, pack up and return to home/point of pick-up. For overnight trips supervision is also in place for stay-overs in accommodation. Children are made aware that they can approach any parent if they have any concerns.

Section 4: Procedures: outlined in Policy Document

Section 5: Implementation:

The implementation of our Child Safeguarding measures have been in place for a number of years and are reviewed every two years by the committee lead by the chairperson.

Relevant Persons:

Ben Schazmann, Instrument Manager and Club Children's Officer 087 648 5909

Patricia Hegarty, Secretary, Orchestra Manager and Club Children's Officer 086 809 3925

Sheena Flavin, Librarian & Designated Liaison Person - 087 228 8813

Email contact for all Relevant Persons: julianstownyouthorchestra@gmail.com