

Homechoir

Safeguarding Policy Statement

May 2024

The purpose and scope of this policy statement

Homechoir provides music directing and leadership, music teaching, online music-making, audio recording and mixing, and music technology support services. These include the setup, running and leadership of live-streamed choir and orchestra rehearsals, the creation of socially-distanced audio and video recordings and performances, and face-to-face music teaching and directing.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- To protect children, young people and vulnerable adults who receive or participate in Homechoir's services from harm. This includes the children of adults who use our services.
- To provide the directors and service users, including children, young people, vulnerable adults and their families and carers, with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Homechoir, including the company directors, paid staff, volunteers, subcontractors 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 and across the UK. A summary of the key legislation is available from [nspcc.org.uk/learning](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning) and www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-safeguarding-statement-of-government-policy-10-may-2013.

Supporting documents

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents.

- Online safety policy and procedures
- Unacceptable behaviour policy and procedures
- Privacy policy and procedures

We believe that:

- Children, young people and vulnerable adults 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 practice in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount in all the work we do.
- All children, young people and vulnerable adults, 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 people are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, vulnerable adults, their parents or carers and other agencies is essential in promoting their welfare.

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

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them.
- Appointing a nominated safeguarding lead.
- Adopting safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct.
- Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures.
- Providing training and support for all staff and volunteers to 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, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their families via our website.
- Making sure that children, young people, vulnerable adults, their families and carers 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, vulnerable adults, their families and carers appropriately.

- Using our procedures to manage any allegations against directors, 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 whistleblowing and complaints measures in place.
- Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, vulnerable adults, their families and carers, staff, and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
- Building a safeguarding culture where directors, staff and volunteers, children, young people, vulnerable adults, their families and carers, treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.

Contact details

Nominated safeguarding lead

Dr Ana-Marie S England

ana@homechoir.uk

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000

This policy was last reviewed on:13 May 2024.....(date)

Signed:.....

Date:15 May 2024.....