

# **Ripon Community Orchestra Safeguarding Policy and Procedure**

## **Policy Statement**

Children and vulnerable adults have the right to participate, have fun and be safe in the services provided for them and the activities they choose, or their parents/carers choose for them.

Ripon Community Orchestra is committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and protecting them from abuse when they are engaged in activities organised and provided by Ripon Community Orchestra and will endeavour to keep children and vulnerable adults safe from abuse.

Suspicions of abuse will be responded to promptly and appropriately. We will act in the best interest of the child or vulnerable adult at all times.

We will actively seek to promote the welfare and protection of all children and vulnerable adults engaged in activities with the Orchestra at all times.

Ripon Community Orchestra will take any concern made by a member, volunteer or child/vulnerable adult seriously and sensitively. Concerns cannot be anonymous and should be made in the knowledge that, during the course of any enquiries, the person or agency that made that referral will be identifiable.

Ripon Community Orchestra will not tolerate harassment of any member, volunteer or child/young person/vulnerable adult who raises concerns of abuse.

## **Procedure**

Any concerns should be brought to the attention of the Committee of the Orchestra. Membership of the Committee is displayed on the orchestra website <https://riponcommunityorchestra.co.uk>  
Contact can be made to any member of this committee, though the Secretary may be the easiest point of access.

Those raising the concern must be made aware that the concern will be shared with appropriate people, but will be treated in confidence as far as possible.

Following discussion amongst the Committee, contact may be made with the Safeguarding Team at North Yorkshire County Council. Any information shared will be treated in confidence as far as possible.

Committee members should not discuss the concern with anyone outside the committee unless it is agreed to contact the Local Authority officer.

Having raised a concern we request that members should not discuss the matter with other members of the Orchestra.