



Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Guidelines

Hexham Brass Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is designed to:

- Safeguard the welfare of all members and young people associated with Hexham Brass by committing to a Code of Practice that protects them.
- Introduce, maintain and apply agreed procedures across the organisation for protecting young people and vulnerable adults.
- Introduce, share and issue guidelines to all members, officers, parents and volunteers on how to deal with any disclosure or discovery of abuse or harm.
- Identify and implement any training for its members, officers, parents and volunteers, relating to implementation and administration of policy procedures and best practice in the prevention of child abuse.
- Make all children, young people and vulnerable adults associated with Hexham Brass aware that they may need to talk with an independent person if they are concerned in any way.
- To follow and apply the Child Protection guidelines issued by the British Federation of Brass Bands.

All aspects of this policy apply to vulnerable adults as well as children and young people.

Hexham Brass Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Statement

Hexham Brass and all volunteers associated with the organisation will work to ensure that we:

- Safeguard to the best of our ability the welfare and well-being of the children, young people and vulnerable adults linked to our group;
- Provide a safe environment for the activities of the organisation where children, young people and vulnerable adults are always protected, listened to and encouraged to talk about their experiences or any concerns that they may have;
 - recognise that people may suffer abuse in many forms – physical, sexual, emotional and/or neglect.

Hexham Brass will always:

- Treat children, young people and vulnerable adults with respect and tolerance;
- Treat all members, officers, parents and volunteers with respect and set an example of good conduct for others to follow;
- Are non-judgmental when dealing with children and young people and respect their individual rights and opinions;
- Respect the 'right to privacy';
- Recognise and encourage the achievements of all band members;
- Remember that insults or verbal abuse from anyone will not be tolerated and must be challenged;
- Are vigilant when dealing with a sensitive matter or situation;
- Are aware of the possible implications of physical contact with children and young people.
- Recognise that actions, no matter how well intended, might be misinterpreted;
- Ensure that all children and young people are properly supervised at all times and whenever possible by more than one adult and that activities are within sight or hearing of others;
- Ensure reasonable precautions are taken to protect children and young people from 'outsiders' in particular when attending venues for events or performances; Seek advice whenever in doubt.

At Hexham Brass we DO NOT:

- Allow bullying or allow children or vulnerable adults to feel “down trodden” or to be made a “fool of”;
- Make suggestive remarks, gestures or derogatory comments in the presence of children and young people;
- Exaggerate or trivialise child abuse issues;
- Allow ourselves to be drawn into any situation which might appear improper;
- Jump to conclusions or ‘take a chance’ where common sense, policy, or practice suggests another more prudent approach.

Action Statement

We will be proactive at all times and be ready to recognise the signs and symptoms. If we suspect, or are informed that a child or young person is experiencing abuse, we NEVER try to investigate further. We will always refer to the guidelines as set out for reporting an allegation and seek further advice from specialist services. We do not pass judgement on what is said. We will try to reassure the child or young person. We do not ask questions about what we might suspect. We make it clear that we are available to listen and can offer support but that we MUST pass on the information.

If an allegation is made, or concerns are raised, the person in receipt of the alleged allegation or concern should ensure that a record is made by completing a Hexham Brass CPP Incident Report and immediately reporting to the Safeguarding Officer, or in their absence to the Deputy Safeguarding Officer. Remember...Do not try to sort it out yourself.

The Internet

Hexham Brass makes use of the Internet via its website at www.hexhambrass.co.uk, its group on Facebook and via email in order to communicate to and interact with members and the public. We will undertake to monitor website activity as far as possible and to safeguard communications via email to prevent any inappropriate or unwanted contact. Email communications to young members will only be sent to parents and not directly to young members. Photographs of band members may, with their consent appear on the website but only without the identification of the band members. Parental consent is required before a young person’s photograph is published.

Administration of Policy

Administration, monitoring and implementation of all procedures in support of this policy will be the responsibility of the Safeguarding Officer.

DBS Checking and Disclosures

DBS Disclosure checks will be taken up on Hexham Brass Safeguarding Officer, Deputy Safeguarding Officer and all who have significant and regular contact with young people in the organisation, as determined by the Safeguarding Officer.

Useful Contacts:**Northumberland County Council**

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Safeguarding Board Business Manager
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Email: Robin.Harper-Coulson@northumberland.gcsx.gov.uk
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NSPCC

help@nspcc.org.uk
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Age UK

For information and advice call 0800 169 2081