

Child Protection Policy Statement

Leicester Church Music Consort

Leicester Church Music Consort acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice, local council requirements and the policies of those Cathedrals and Parish Churches where the group sings and rehearses.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of music and singing at the Leicester Church Music Consort in a safe and child centred environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in rehearsals, services, or outside of the activity whilst on residential weekends at Cathedrals, or Churches, or concerts

Leicester Church Music Consort acknowledges that some children, including disabled children and young people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy Leicester Church Music Consort will

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals, members of the group will be asked from time to time to declare that they have no convictions, whether spent or not, or charges pending that may prevent them from working with children
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation
- ensure that the director of the group has undergone suitable training in Safeguarding and for the purposes of this statement is the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- ensure that there are additional people within the Leicester Church Music who have a current enhanced DBS clearance who can fulfil lead Safeguarding responsibilities as directed, or in the director's absence.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and is mandatory for everyone involved in Leicester Church Music Consort. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

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Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as required by the Local Council Safeguarding Children Board
- as a result of any other significant change or event

(Last reviewed February 2026)