

# LEARNING

## Chamber Music Scotland and the Child Protection Policy

All those involved with the Chamber Music Scotland Learning Programme must be made aware of the Child Protection Policies and Guidelines which exist in Scotland.

The four Key Principles from the Child Protection Guidelines for the Arts which should be drawn to people's attention are:

1. The best interests of the child must always be a primary consideration
2. All children and young people should be treated fairly and with dignity and respect
3. All children and young people have the right to protection from all forms of harm, abuse, neglect and exploitation
4. All children and young people have the right to express their views on matters that affect them

CMS may send musicians to schools and community venues without having run a PVG Disclosure check. It is the responsibility of the host organisation in line with both their internal policies and those of the local authority to determine whether a PVG Disclosure check should be carried out prior to the visit.

Sufficient supervision must be in place at all times during any workshop. It is the responsibility of the host organisation to ensure that the musicians are at no time left alone with participants as the musicians cannot be left in the role as primary carer.

Both the host organisation and musicians must adhere to the guidelines as detailed -

- Common sense and professional judgement are required at all times.
- Create a relaxed and friendly atmosphere whilst always remaining professional.
- At all times behavior should be appropriate. Maintain a professional distance and don't make your audience uncomfortable by word or action.
- Dress should be appropriate for the situation.
- Activities should be accessible to all children and young people who want to be involved. It is a good idea to ask in advance whether there are any individuals in the group who have particular needs. Please ensure that any of these conversations are undertaken sensitively and within a confidential setting.
- Create the opportunity for the children and young people to express opinions, make decisions, engage and respond.
- Be aware of health and safety hazards. Make sure any equipment will not cause an accident and that there are no potential dangers in the activities.
- Any photographs taken of the event/activities must be authorised in advance by the host organisation. If required, photo consent forms are available from CMS.

For further guidance on child protection and safeguarding within the arts, please refer to Creative Scotland's "Creating Safety" -

<https://www.creativescotland.com/resources/professional-resources/guidance-and-toolkits/creating-safety>

Updated October 2019