



National Youth Orchestra of Ireland *Ceolfhoireann Náisiúnta Óige na hÉireann*

The National Youth Orchestra of Ireland Child Safeguarding Statement November 2017

1. Name of Service being provided: The National Youth Orchestra of Ireland
2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm:

The National Youth Orchestra of Ireland manages music education and performance programmes for young Irish musicians (aged 12-18 years) through the study of challenging and exciting repertoire under the guidance of music professionals, encouraging performance of the highest standard on national and international platforms.

The range of activities in which young people might be involved with NYOI includes the following:

- Auditions;
- Workshops (e.g. audition training, chamber music [etc.]);
- Masterclasses;
- Rehearsals;
- Public performances;
- National and international touring;
- Residential courses and activities, including hosting with families;
- Leisure activities (including sports, swimming and social activities);
- Photoshoots, press launches and promotional activities;
- International exchanges;
- Audio and video recording of public recordings, rehearsals and vox pops;
- Writing programme notes, reviews and articles for publication in programmes, newsletters, websites, local and national media;
- Communications via the internet and social media platforms;
- Participation in fundraising activities;

NYOI is committed to promoting best practice within our organisation and to the protection of the young people with whom we work.

NYOI is committed to promoting the rights of the young people including the participation of young people in making decisions on matters that affect them.

NYOI is committed to adherence to *Children First National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children* (2017) and the Children First Act 2015.

3. Risk Assessment

NYOI has carried out an assessment of any potential of risk of harm to a young people while availing of our services. The areas of risk and the procedures identified to address these areas have been identified in relation to staff, volunteers, other participants and unrelated third parties.

Risk Identified	Procedure in Place to Manage Identified Risk
Risk of harm not being recognised and / or not being dealt with appropriately.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child welfare policies and procedures implemented and up to date • Online training in Child Welfare for all staff and volunteers • Code of conduct for staff and volunteers • Clearly documented reporting mechanism • Appointment, training and clear identification of DLP and DDLP
Insufficient number of adult staff and volunteers present at events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A residential staff ratio for the first eight people of 2 adults. For each extra ten people (or part thereof), one extra adult.
Risk of harm from staff and volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for recruitment, Garda vetting and referencing of staff and volunteers. • Supervision, training and support of staff and volunteers
Risk of harm from third parties in accommodation and other facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of potential risks and act accordingly.
Artistic staff unavailable at short notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep a list of trained and approved tutors.
Failure to engage appropriately trained staff and / or volunteers due to fear of child protection legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be clear about the level of responsibility required of staff and volunteers and support them and facilitate their training.
Bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-bullying policy.
Critical incident: Assault (fight), sexual assault, serious accident (h&s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and volunteers are trained appropriately in child welfare and in first aid and first aid staff are identified.
Underage sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strict guidelines supplied by Tusla
Risk due to alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and volunteers on duty never drink • Clear boundaries for young people • Code of conduct, sanctions and rules for participants.
Risk due to drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No drugs other than prescription drugs or over the counter remedies are to be taken or be in the possession of players/staff or volunteers.
Inappropriate use of social media and mobile phones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt policies on communications and use of social media.
Inappropriate communication with or communications by inappropriate channels between staff, volunteers and participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt policies on communications and use of social media.
Inappropriate use of data / personal information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt policies on communications and use of personal information.

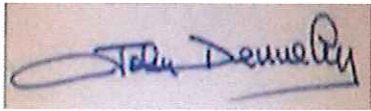
4. Policies and Procedures

NYOI's Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with the requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance* and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practise*. We have implemented policies and procedures covering:

- The appointment of responsible persons;
- Code of behaviour for staff and volunteers ;
- Code of behaviour for young people;
- Bullying;
- Recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers;
- Managing and supervising staff and volunteers;
- Involvement of primary carers;
- Reporting procedures for child protection concerns;
- Allegations against staff and volunteers;
- Confidentiality
- Incidents and accidents
- Complaints and comments

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep young people safe from harm while availing of our service. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on December 2019 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.



Signed:

John Dennehy, Chairperson on behalf of the NYOI Board of Management

For queries, please contact Carol-Ann McKenna, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015

Tel: 041 9880515

Email: manager@nyoi.ie