



# Band Tref Pontardulais Pontardulais Town Band



## SAFEGUARDING POLICY

### Introduction

The Band welcomes all members regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation and/or identity.

Safeguarding children, young people and adults with care and support needs within the band is the responsibility of **ALL members** of Pontardulais Town Band.

Pontardulais Band believes that a child, young person or adult with care and support needs should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children, young people and adults at risk and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

For the purposes of this policy:

- A child or young person is anyone aged under 18 years. The terms child and young person are used interchangeably in the policy.
- Young people are aged 16 and 17
- The term 'parent' means person with parental responsibility.

### 1. The aim of the policy is to:

1. Provide a safe environment for all Band members,
2. To safeguard children, young people and adults with additional needs (formerly known as 'vulnerable adults') who participate in activities of the Heath Band,
3. To provide all Band Members with a set of guidelines which govern our approach to Safeguarding, Health, Safety and Security

This policy has been drawn up based on law and guidance that seeks to protect children and adults at risk, namely:

- Children Act (1989)
- United Convention of the Rights of the Child (1991)
- Data Protection Act (1998) and subsequent data protection guidance
- Sexual Offences Act (2003)
- Children Act (2004)
- Protection of Freedoms Act (2012)

- Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; HM Government (2018)
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act (2006)
- The Human Rights Act (1998)
- The Children and Families Act (2014)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) code of practice: 0 to 25 years. Statutory guidance for organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities; HM Government (2014)
- General Data Protection Regulations (European Union) (2017)
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers; HM Government (2015)
- The Care Act (2014)
- The Care Act (2014) Care and Support Statutory Guidance (specifically the safeguarding section of this)
- The Mental Capacity Act (2005)

## **2. We recognise that:**

1. the welfare of the child is paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act (1989);
2. all children, young people and adults, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
3. some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues; and
4. working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.
5. we have safeguarding responsibilities towards adult members, some of whom may be vulnerable at different times in their lives.
6. statutory safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:
  - a. has care and support needs
  - b. is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect
  - c. as a result of those care and support needs, is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect.

## **3. We will seek to keep children, young people and adults safe by:**

1. valuing them, listening to and respecting them, ensuring that, in the case of adults, we work with their consent unless 'vital interests' [as defined in the Data Protection Act (1998)] are at stake, or the person has been assessed as lacking mental capacity [as defined in the Mental Capacity Act (2005)];

2. adopting child protection and adult safeguarding practices through procedures and a code of conduct for and members and volunteers.
3. ensuring that our governance arrangements reflect our commitment to safeguarding.
4. working to ensure that there is a safe culture within our band
5. developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy and related procedures;
6. providing effective support and training for volunteers with responsibility;
7. recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made;
8. sharing information about child protection and adult safeguarding with children, parents, volunteers and members;
9. sharing concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately.

### **Safeguarding Policy Statement.**

#### **1. The welfare of our members is paramount, in particular, the band will:**

1. ensure that there are opportunities for all people, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity to participate in brass banding in an enjoyable and safe environment
2. take all reasonable steps to protect young people and vulnerable adults from harm, discrimination and degrading treatment and to respect their rights, wishes and feelings
3. take action swiftly and appropriately to all suspicions and allegations of poor practice or abuse
4. follow the guidance provided by Brass Bands England (BBE), through compliance with the BBE BandSafe programme
5. review and revise this policy as necessary at regular intervals.

#### **2. The overall and final responsibility for safeguarding is that of the Trustees of Pontardulais Band.**

Day-to-day responsibility for ensuring this policy is put into practice is delegated to the Band Committee Members and the Safeguarding Officer(s).

The Committee and the Safeguarding Officer(s) have a responsibility to report on safeguarding issues to the Trustees on a regular basis.

**3.The Band Chair, Committee, and Musical Directors and Safeguarding Officer(s) have a responsibility to:**

1. Provide band members with the best possible care;
2. Refrain from any abusive or harmful action;
3. Record and report anything they witness which is or might be abusive or harmful;
4. Co-operate in any investigation into alleged abuse;
5. Participate in training activities relating to abuse, neglect, and safeguarding.

**4.To ensure safeguarding standards are maintained all band members have a responsibility to:**

1. comply with the band's policies on Safeguarding, Anti-bullying, Data Protection, Health and Safety and the Use of Social Media;
2. co-operate with Band Managers, the Welfare Officer, Supervisors and the band's Musical Directors;
3. report all safeguarding concerns, in confidence, to an appropriate person.

**5.Policy Scope**

The policy is applicable to all of the activities of the band and specifically at band rehearsals, before and after band rehearsals whilst waiting for parents to collect young people, and at events and concerts in which the band participates.

The policy does not cover activities by members of the band which are not part of the band's organised events.

Transport to and from rehearsals and events is not within the responsibility of the band; parents and/or responsible adults in charge of children should arrange for safe travel arrangements.

**6.Safe Procedures and Practices**

The band uses the Brass Band England's BandSafe programme to ensure that safe procedures and practices are in place. The BandSafe programme is to be implemented as follows.

1. The band as an organisation is registered with BBE and will carry out the BBE BandSafe check and reviews as required
2. DBS checks will be carried out for the Band Chair, committee, Safeguarding Officer, Musical Directors and designated responsible adults. These checks will be monitored annually using the update service,
3. The Band Chair, Safeguarding Officer, a committee member and the Musical Director of the Academy will undertake the BandSafe training programme, updated on a 2-year cycle.

4. At performance events, the band will follow the requirements for child performance licencing, using the BBE BOPA registration arrangements.
5. The band will maintain policies on health and safety, data protection, anti-bullying and use of social media.

**The band committee is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of this policy.**

**We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.**

**This policy was last reviewed on: .....05/04/24.....(Date)**

**Signed: .....Alison Gent.....(Band  
Safeguarding/Welfare Officer)**

**Date of Next Review.....April  
2026.....**

**Useful contact details:**

Band Safeguarding/Welfare Officer: **[Alison Gent, 07973 222860, alisongent@yahoo.co.uk]**

Local police: **[Call 101]**

Local authority children's social care department, including out of hours contact: **[01446 725202 out of hours 02920 788570]**

NSPCC Helpline: **0808 800 5000** or **help@nspcc.org.uk**

ChildLine: **0800 1111** (textphone 0800 400 222) or **www.childline.org.uk**

The Samaritans: **https://www.samaritans.org/**

National Domestic Abuse Helpline: **https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/**

Local authority adult social care department: **[01792 636519/636854]**

Brass Bands England Safeguarding Officer: **01226 771015, safeguarding@bbe.org**