EYNSFORD
CONCERT BAND

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

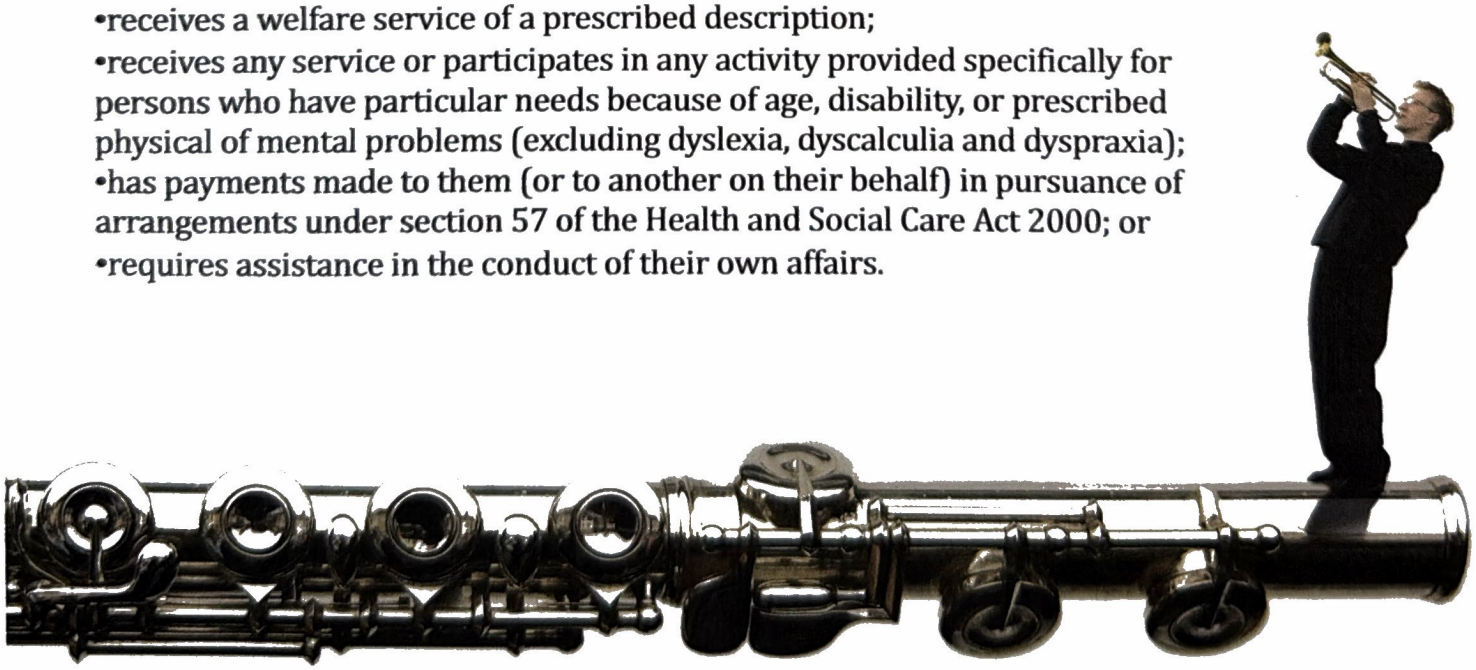
Eynsford Concert Band is committed to creating an environment in which children and vulnerable adults are protected from harm.

Eynsford Concert Band believes that all children and vulnerable 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 and abuse, including physical, emotional and sexual harm, and neglect.

A child is defined as being under the age of 18.

Under Section 59 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, a vulnerable adult is defined as a person, having attained the age of 18, who:

- is in residential accommodation;
- is in sheltered housing;
- receives domiciliary care;
- receives any form of health care;
- is detained in lawful custody;
- is by virtue of an order of a court under supervision by a person exercising functions for the purposes of Part 1 of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000;
- receives a welfare service of a prescribed description;
- receives any service or participates in any activity provided specifically for persons who have particular needs because of age, disability, or prescribed physical of mental problems (excluding dyslexia, dyscalculia and dyspraxia);
- has payments made to them (or to another on their behalf) in pursuance of arrangements under section 57 of the Health and Social Care Act 2000; or
- requires assistance in the conduct of their own affairs.



It is the opinion of the Committee that, at the date of adoption of this policy, no band member falls under the definition of a vulnerable adult. In the event that a vulnerable adult wishes to join, or perform with **Eynsford Concert Band**, their safeguarding needs would be assessed, and the relevant measures put in place.

As a consequence, the purpose of this policy is:

•to protect children who join or perform with **Eynsford Concert Band**; and
•to provide members with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

We will seek to keep children safe by:

•valuing them, listening to and respecting them, as well as respecting their right to privacy and dignity;
•appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) and a lead committee member for safeguarding;
•creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment;
•ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment by applying appropriate Health and Safety measures and assessments;
•allocating each child who joins or performs with **Eynsford Concert Band** a dedicated mentor, who will be a holder of a current DBS certificate, and who will be the first point of contact for the child should they have any concerns;
•adopting child protection and safeguarding procedures and sharing these with all members;
•using our procedures to manage any allegations against members appropriately; and
•using our procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies that need to know, and involving the children and their parents or carers as appropriate.

CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES

Eynsford Concert Band recognises that it is not practical, or strictly necessary, that all members should be in receipt of a current DBS certificate, given that we are not undertaking a "regulated activity". However, a register will be maintained of all members who are in possession of a valid DBS certificate, either in their workplace, or in another setting.

Bullying or abuse, either physical, emotional, financial or discriminatory will not be tolerated, and should be reported to the DSO if experienced or witnessed.

One to one contact with a child, away from others, should be avoided at all times. If privacy is needed to discuss a matter, then the DSO or lead committee member for safeguarding should be informed of the meeting.

Inappropriate physical contact with a child must never happen, including rough games and horseplay.

Photographic images of children should not be used on the band website, in the press or on social media without the express permission of the child's parent or guardian. This exclusion includes the private social media accounts of other band members.

A child may only take part in an activity that involves being away from home overnight if they are accompanied by a person with parental responsibility or their nominated representative. A nominated representative must be an adult staying overnight to whom the person with parental responsibility has granted the power to act "in loco parentis" for the duration of the event. This will need to be evidenced using the standard form in Appendix 1.

Child protection and safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone. If any member has concerns regarding safeguarding or child protection, or regarding the actions of another band member in relation to child protection matters, they should discuss it, in the first instance, with the DSO, or, secondly, the lead committee member for safeguarding.

A member who is approached by a child with a safeguarding concern should:
- listen without interruption, and not ask leading questions;
- not investigate the matter, but accept without challenge what is said;
- not over-react;
- not guarantee confidentiality, or make promises of action;
- explain that the issue will be passed to the DSO;
- offer support, without passing judgement on the matter;
- document the conversation as soon as possible afterwards; and
- report the issue to the DSO at the earliest opportunity.

In the event that the DSO is unavailable, all matters should be referred to the lead committee member for safeguarding.

THE ROLE OF THE DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING OFFICER (DSO)

The Designated Safeguarding Officer leads upon policy development and reporting, including:

•reviewing and updating **Eynsford Concert Band's** Safeguarding Policy on an annual basis, or when necessary;

•leading upon contact with Local Authority Social Services in the event that a child is at risk of harm;

•managing complaints or allegations against members;

•referring relevant issues of safeguarding to the lead committee member for safeguarding for consideration; and

•promoting safeguarding across the organisation.

CONTACT DETAILS

Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO)
Jane Wright
Tel: 07837 239222
E-mail: janeburborough@hotmail.com

Lead Committee Member for Safeguarding
Brian Evans
Tel: 07770 780839
E-mail: bcevans@btinternet.com

NSPCC Helpline
Tel: 0808 800 5000

Kent Safeguarding Children Board
Tel: 03000 411111

ADOPTION AND REVIEW

We are committed to reviewing this policy on an annual basis.

This policy was reviewed and re-adopted by the Committee on 20 October 2026

Brian Evans

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Brian Evans - Lead Committee Member for Safeguarding

Appendix 1: In Loco Parentis Consent Form

EYNSFORD
CONCERT BAND

APPOINTMENT TO ACT *IN LOCO PARENTIS*

This form must be completed and signed by the person with parental responsibility for the child, countersigned by the person who is to act *in loco parentis* whilst the child is away overnight with Eynsford Concert Band, and then returned to Brian Evans (Lead Committee Member for Safeguarding) prior to travel.

Please complete this form in capital letters.

Details of event:	
From:	To:

Child's name:	Child's date of birth:

Name of person with parental responsibility:	
Relationship to child:	Contact details during period of travel. Address: Telephone no.:

Please give details of anyone else who holds parental responsibility for the child and who may be available to be contacted in an emergency in the event that you cannot be contacted.	
Name:	Telephone no.:
Relationship to child:	

I hereby consent to acting *in loco parentis* on my behalf for the above child whilst they are away with Eynsford Concert Band for this event and authorise them specifically to be able to consent to any emergency medical treatment necessary.	
Name:	Signature:
Date:	

I hereby agree to act *in loco parentis* for the above child whilst they are away with Eynsford Concert Band for this event.	
Name:	Signature:
Date:	