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Safeguarding policy

The Bolton & District Organists' Association (BDOA) have taken guidance from the Incorporated Associations of Organists (IAO) and follow this policy in respect of safeguarding. Achieving our aims means that BDOA events may at times involve children and vulnerable adults and we will work with them, their parents, carers and others to ensure we fully support their rights and to maintain the safest possible environment for them.

We do this by:

- Recognising that all children and vulnerable adults have the right to freedom from abuse and harm;
- Promoting joint working with parents/carers in the interest of the welfare of children & vulnerable adults;
- Ensuring that our members, volunteers and others are aware of and accept responsibility for helping to prevent the abuse of children & vulnerable adults;
- Designating a Safeguarding Officer who takes specific responsibility for the protection, safety & well-being of children & vulnerable adults;
- Supporting all our volunteers in bringing concerns to the designated Safeguarding Officer;
- Responding quickly and appropriately to all suspicions or allegations of abuse
- Providing parents/carers, children & vulnerable adults with the opportunity to voice any concerns they may have;
- Adopting positive behaviour management strategies which are non-violent and do not impose humiliation;
- Regularly reviewing the effectiveness of our Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.

With reference to public recitals, concerts and other events organised or promoted by the BDOA, we welcome children under the age of 16 years if accompanied by a parent, carer, or other responsible adult acceptable to the parent/carers and to the BDOA. We regret that unaccompanied children under the age of 16 years will only be admitted to our events by prior written agreement with the BDOA. The designated Safeguarding Officer is the BDOA secretary, contactable at info@phmusic.co.uk / 07799 621954. This policy was adopted 27th June 2022.