

## Policy for the Safeguarding of Children and Young People

### 1. Introduction to Pied Piper Projects

Pied Piper Projects was established in 1997 by Simon Thackray and Sarah Derbyshire and is now the leading organisation dedicated to youth arts participation and performance in Ryedale, North Yorkshire.

Pied piper offers young people living in Ryedale the opportunity to participate in music and poetry workshops delivered by internationally acclaimed artists.

The organisation was set up to provide much needed opportunities for young people to experience high quality workshops and performances, and to make them easily accessible in this rural area. Over the past ten years Pied Piper has involved 30,000 young people, giving them the chance to get involved in music and performance through jazz, world, folk, classical, rock, urban, songwriting, composition, storytelling, film making and music technology workshops

As an organisation Pied Piper works in two distinct ways:

- to introduce children and young people to new and unusual genres of music, broadening their horizons and introducing them to culturally diverse artists
- to nurture the talents of young musicians to enable them to meet their full potential as musicians and members of the musical community of North Yorkshire

### 2. Policy Statement

Pied Piper believes that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to practice which protects them.

This policy has been written to enable all those concerned with our activities (musicians, Pied Piper staff, Trustees, volunteers, teachers, carers, parents, venue staff, partners and funders) to understand the environment in which we deliver our activities and to assist children and young people, their parents and carers to understand what we mean by Safeguarding. In sharing this knowledge and ensuring that those involved in the delivery of Pied Piper activities understand it, we form a partnership that will assist us in ensuring that the environment in which we work is as safe as is reasonably practicable.

### 3. Principles

This policy and the accompanying procedures and code of conduct are based on Pied Piper's commitment to the following principles:

Pied Piper recognises that:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount
- all children regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse

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- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

## 4. Purpose of the Policy

Pied Piper's purpose in producing this policy is as follows:

- To provide protection for the children and young people who receive Pied Piper's services, including the children of adult members or users
- To provide musicians, Pied Piper staff, Trustees, volunteers, teachers, carers, parents, venue staff, partners and funders with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a children or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm

## 5. To whom this policy applies

This policy applies to all musicians, Pied Piper staff, Trustees, volunteers, teachers, carers, parents, venue staff, partners and funders and anyone working on behalf of Pied Piper.

Pied Piper will endeavour to safeguard children and young people by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers
- Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training

## 6. Review

This policy, the accompanying procedures and code of conduct will be reviewed by Pied Piper's Trustees and Directors on an annual basis.

***This policy and the accompanying procedures have been written using guidelines issued by the NSPCC and are underpinned by the following legislation: The Children Act 1989; The Children Act 2004; Protection of Children Act 1999; The Police Act 1997; Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000; Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.***

**December 2009**