



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Sing for Pleasure is committed to safeguarding the health and wellbeing of choristers, and endorses the principles contained in the Children Act 1989 and 2004, other guidelines and legislation. In this context:

- A key principle is that “the welfare of the child is paramount”.
- All children without exception have the right to protection from physical or mental danger or abuse, however caused, regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or belief.
- No child or group of children must be treated any less favourably than others in being able to access services which meet their particular needs.
- SFP is committed to safe recruitment, selection and vetting of tutors and staff.
- SFP encourages the involvement and/or presence of teachers, parents and specialist pastoral co-ordinators at its events for children. Parents and children are informed of this policy as appropriate.
- All concerns and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by trustees, managers, all engaged in paid work for the charity and volunteers, and responded to appropriately (this may require a referral to children’s social care services, the independent Local Authority Designated Officer for allegations against staff, trustees and other volunteers, and in emergencies, the police).
- This policy applies to all trustees, managers, staff and volunteers.
- Nothing in SFP’s policies, practices or procedures should be read as attempting to remove the right of any individual to contact the statutory authorities or other agencies if they have concerns for the safety of a child or young person.
- This policy is approved by the Board of Trustees and subject to review annually or more frequently if new/amended legislation/guidelines or other circumstances demand it.