

## **Children and Young People in the Orchestra**

Leicester Symphony Orchestra acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people (up to the age of 18 years) and recognises that the welfare and interests of children and young people are paramount in all circumstances.

Leicester Symphony Orchestra aims to ensure that all children and young people have a positive and enjoyable experience from music in a safe environment.

As an organisation we accept our responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure the wellbeing of those children and young people whilst they are performing with Leicester Symphony Orchestra or helping, for example, as front of house staff.

In order to achieve these objectives, Leicester Symphony Orchestra shall have in place the following guiding principles:

- In the first instance the parent(s)/guardian(s) of children or young people shall be actively encouraged to attend rehearsals and concerts wherever possible
- Where children or young people are associated to Leicester Symphony Orchestra through schools/colleges and parent(s)/guardian(s) are not present, the responsible teacher(s) shall be actively encouraged to attend rehearsals and concerts wherever possible
- At no time shall any child or young person be left in a situation where they are one to one with an adult (unless their parent/guardian/teacher)
- At no time shall any child or young person be left unsupervised or in any situation where they be at risk

Leicester Symphony Orchestra have amongst its members a number of adults who work in professions which interact with children and young people, such as teachers, youth workers and medical professionals, who have an up to date DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) check. These individuals shall be named on a list held by The Chairperson and a designated adult with a DBS check will be highlighted to the child or young person and their parent/guardian/teacher (as appropriate), and may act as a contact point for any child or young person whilst they are performing with Leicester Symphony Orchestra.

All members of Leicester Symphony Orchestra shall be provided with a copy of this statement and are expected to behave appropriately and in accordance with its principles at all times.

Should any member notice any behaviour affecting a child or young person at one of our rehearsals or concerts which they feel to be inappropriate or which gives them cause for concern as to the safety or wellbeing of that individual, they should raise their concern with The Chairperson, or any member of The Council of Management without delay.