

Oldham Music Service

Safeguarding Policy

Policy Statement for Parents, Carers and Students

April 2020

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Oldham Music Service (OMS) has a duty of care to safeguard from harm all children and young people with whom it interacts. Children and young people occupy a central place within OMS and its work. A major part of OMS' responsibility for all children and young people in its care is to always ensure their safety and wellbeing. OMS strongly believes that all children and young people have the right to be treated fairly, justly and have the right to freedom from abuse and harm.

To help us do this effectively we have a Safeguarding Policy in place, which is designed to protect all children and young people who participate in OMS activities. This policy details the legal requirements, organisational procedures and best practice as applicable to all staff. This policy applies to all OMS staff, including those who work on a volunteer and freelance basis. Our policy ensures that all our staff and volunteers are carefully selected and vetted, have the relevant qualifications and experience, and accept responsibility for helping to prevent the abuse of children and young people in their care. We aim to offer comprehensive advice to OMS staff members and freelance teachers with regards to safe delivery and good practice.

All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

OMS has procedures in place to address poor practice, and to help any child/young person who appears to be at risk, or who appears to be a victim of abuse. We will offer help and support when a child/young person tells us that they are affected by these issues. As part of Oldham Council we will work with the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) team to ensure as far as possible that children and young people are protected. The terms "child", "children", "girl" and "boy" are used to refer to anyone under the age of 18. The terms "young person", "young people", "young woman" and "young man" are used to refer to anyone between the ages of 18 and 25 years.

OMS will not tolerate bullying. Incidents of bullying will be investigated and treated seriously. Action will be taken to stop the bullying.