

**BRASS BAND LEAGUE  
CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

**ADOPTED: 11TH MAY 2013**

1. The Brass Band League's objectives are:
  - To promote and encourage all efforts tending to the continual improvement of the cultural and advancement of brass bands throughout all sections of the community in Northern Ireland irrespective of religious, sexual or ethnic background or physical status.
  - To foster and develop links with other brass bands in the wider society.
2. The Brass Band League's events include, but are not limited to, competitions, master-classes, workshops, and recitals. Any of these events may involve the participation of children under the age of 18.
3. The Brass Band League is committed to providing a safe environment for children at any event that they attend or in which they participate, and acknowledges that the welfare of each child is paramount. All members of the Brass Band League Executive are aware of the League's child protection policy and endorse it.
4. The Brass Band League's child protection policy applies to children under the age of 18 who attend or participate in any of the League's events, or who act as volunteer helpers in any of its administrative functions. The policy also applies to all members of the Executive, volunteers, and any artists and tutors engaged by the League to participate in any of its events involving children.
5. The Brass Band League believes that all children without exception have the right to protection from abuse regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs.
6. Children performing in Brass Band League events, and their parents, will be advised of the League's child protection policy, and the policy will be made available to them in advance. Parents of participating children will be required to be in attendance at the events in question, or to satisfy themselves that their children will be supervised at the events by other responsible adults acting on their behalf.
7. Children attending events as members of the audience should be supervised by their parents or other responsible adults. Any schools involved in Brass Band League events will be sent a copy of the child protection policy.

8. The use of photography or digital recording at Brass Band League events involving children is strictly prohibited. Occasionally the press will be invited to take photographs at Brass Band League events; if parents do not wish their children to be photographed, they or the accompanying adult should make this known to the Brass Band League personnel at the event.
9. Brass Band League personnel will be identified by a badge at all events involving children, and will be in attendance in the performance space. Parents' attention is drawn to the fact that practice areas and toilets are not supervised by Brass Band League personnel.
10. Concerns and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by Executive members, staff and volunteers, and responded to appropriately; this may require a referral to children's services and in emergencies, the police.
11. This policy is supported by the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults (NI) Order 2003; the Protection of Children Act, the Court Services Act 2000; the Care Standard Act 2000.
12. The Brass Band League undertakes to review this policy against current guidelines and best practice every 5 years.

Designated person for child protection policy: