



## **Youthsayers Safeguarding Policy Statement**

### **Purpose and Scope of this Policy statement**

Youthsayers' mission is to provide young people with opportunities to learn and perform music free of charge

### **The purposes of this policy are:**

- To set out how the Youthsayers will safeguard and provide protection for young people.
- To give guidance to employees, contractors and volunteers about what procedures they should adopt in the event they suspect a young person may be experiencing or is at risk of harm.

As an organisation working with young people, Youthsayers, through its employees, contractors and volunteers, is committed to practices that aim to protect children and young people from harm, in particular;

- to establish and maintain an environment in which the welfare of the young person is paramount;
- to ensure that its policies and procedures protect young people from harm regardless of their gender ethnicity disability sexuality or beliefs; and
- to ensure that all concerns and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to appropriately.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of Youthsayers, including senior managers, the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students

### **Legal framework**

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from [nspcc.org.uk/child protection](http://nspcc.org.uk/child-protection).

## **Supporting documents**

This policy statement should be read alongside our organisational policies, procedures, guidance and other related documents:

- Youthsayers safeguarding young people policy
- Behaviour code for young people
- Code of Conduct and Behaviour policy for staff and volunteers
- Health and safety policy
- Complaints policy
- Whistleblowing policy

### **We believe that:**

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children

### **We recognise that:**

- the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and the decisions we take
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from abuse

## **Safeguarding principles**

Youthsayers will seek to safeguard young people by:

- Valuing, listening to and respecting young people;
- Appointing a nominated child protection lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding
- Adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for employees, contractors and volunteers;
- Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures

- Recruiting employees, contractors and volunteers safely ensuring all necessary checks are made;
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with employees contractors and volunteers.
- Providing appropriate support to employees, contractors and volunteers through supervision and training;
- using our safeguarding and child protection procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately.
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers.
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring that we have a policy and procedure to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.
- building a safeguarding culture where staff and volunteers, children and young people treat each other with respect and are comfortable about sharing concerns.
- Assessing risk in relation to all activities, focusing on prevention and minimising risk

## **Contact details:**

### **Nominated child protection lead**

Name: Robin Hopcraft

Phone/email: youthsayers@gmail.com

### **Deputy child protection lead(s)**

Name(s): Idris Rahman

Phone/email: idrisrahman@hotmail.com

### **Trustee / Senior Lead for Child Protection**

Name: Sally Kelly

Phone / Email: 70skelly@gmail.com

### **NSPCC Helpline**

**0808 800 5000**

**We are committed to reviewing our policy annually**

**This policy was last reviewed in June 2024**

**Signed (by safeguarding lead in trustees):**

**Date:** June 14th 2024