# Child Safeguarding Statement

1. **Name of service being provided:**

WhistleBlast Quartet

1. **Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm**

The WhistleBlast Quartet offers a wide range of accessible musical experiences including performances and recitals for any occasion and workshop programmes for young people and adults, including those with special needs.

We are committed to a child-centered approach to our work with children and young people. We undertake to provide a safe environment and experience, where the welfare of the child/young person is paramount.

1. **Risk Assessment**

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services including the area of online safety when accessing the internet. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

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|  | **Risk identified** | **Procedure in place to manage identified risk** |
| 1 | Music stands, leads | The WhistleBlast Quartet will ensure all equipment is set up safely. At the beginning of each workshop the Relevant Person will outline risks and procedures to follow. |
| 2 | Physical contact | Physical inappropriate contact is not allowed under our guidelines. Given the nature of our work and institution physical contact is inevitable so staff need to follow these guidelines:   * Seek consent of child/young person in relation to physical contact (except in an emergency or a dangerous situation); * Avoid horseplay or inappropriate touch; * Check with children/young people about their level of comfort when   doing touch exercises. |
| 3 | Temporary staff | The WhistleBlast Quartet will ensure that staff are carefully selected, trained and supervised to provide a safe environment for all children and young people. Those chosen to be employed will be not allowed to take their position if any of the below transpire:   * If there is a history of child-related convictions; * If there is a refusal to sign application form and declaration form; * If there is insufficient documentary evidence of identification; * If there is a concealing of information on one’s suitability to working with children. |

1. **Procedures**

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children* (2017), and Tusla’s *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

* Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service;
* Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children;
* Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
* Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla;
* Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

1. **Implementation**

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on August 2023 , or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mary Curran

Designated Liaison Person

WhistleBlast Quartet

[whistleblastquartet@gmail.com](about:blank)

+353(87) 224 7643

For queries please contact Mary Curran.