

# Shrewsbury Light Orchestra

## **Policy Statement for the Protection of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults Agreed by the Committee and Trustees 19 July 2013 To be reviewed July 2014**

### **Policy Statement**

The Shrewsbury Light Orchestra is an amateur community orchestra based in Shrewsbury. We are committed to developing practices that actively promote the interests and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

We further believe that:

- the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount;
- it is always unacceptable for children, young people and vulnerable adults, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual identity to experience abuse of any kind and they have the right to protection from all types of harm;
- all suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately;
- it is the duty of all members and officers of the orchestra to prevent abuse and dangerous practice and they should be clear on how to respond appropriately;
- working in partnership with children, young people and vulnerable adults and with their parents, carers and their agencies is essential in promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults.

### **The purpose of the policy:**

- To provide protection for the children, young people and vulnerable adults who are regular or invited members of the Shrewsbury Light Orchestra, including the children of adult members.
- To provide members with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child, young person or vulnerable adult may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

This policy applies to all members or guests of the Shrewsbury Light Orchestra.

### **We will seek to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults by:**

- valuing, listening to and respecting them;
- adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for members;
- recruiting officers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made;
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents and members;
- sharing information about concerns with the relevant agencies and involving parents and children appropriately;
- providing support and training for safeguarding officers.

We are also committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.