



## **Boyne Music Festival - Child Safeguarding Statement**

The Boyne Music Festival provides an opportunity for world-class artists to perform and exhibit works in a unique historic setting. The Boyne Music Festival helps foster a love of classical music and the arts among children, young musicians and the community.

The Boyne Music Festival (BMF) acknowledges a duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people engaging in BMF's activities.

### **Boyne Music Festival's work with children:**

The Boyne Music Festival supports young talent through its Young Artist Programme and Children's Workshops. The BMF Young Artist Programme creates an opportunity for learning and growth through masterclasses and collaborations with visiting BMF Artists. It encourages communication and mentorship between seasoned professional musicians and young talented performers.

The BMF Children's Workshops offer fun and engaging music activities during which the children sing, compose, and play a variety of instruments.

### **The Boyne Music Festival defines its principles for Child Safeguarding as follows:**

- Fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children.
- Appointing a Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and a Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) for children and young people.
- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.
- Aim to create a safe atmosphere where all children will have a positive and enjoyable experience.
- Providing guidance for performers, volunteers and third parties on how to engage with children in a safe way.
- Any child safeguarding or welfare concerns reported to Tusla/Gardaí in a timely manner.

## Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending and participating in Boyne Music Festival workshops and masterclasses, 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.

Risks Identified	Procedures in place to manage risks identified
<p>Non-compliance with BMF Child Safety procedures</p>	<p>All artists, facilitators and volunteers are provided with the BMF Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection and Welfare Policy. These guidelines comply with the Children First Act 2015.</p> <p>In addition, facilitators receive training on safeguarding, in the form of a meeting to discuss and talk through the policy with the BMF Designated Person/Deputy Designated Person. This takes place at the beginning of every Boyne Music Festival.</p> <p>Any breach of the Child Safeguarding Procedures will be reported to the Designated or Deputy Designated Liaison Persons, or directly to Tulsa.</p>
<p>Incident of inappropriate behaviour by member of the public /artist/ workshop facilitator /volunteer</p>	<p>All safeguarding guidelines and procedures are outlined in the BMF Child Protection and Welfare Policy.</p> <p>Artists, facilitators and volunteers are familiar with procedures for reporting incidents of inappropriate behaviour to Designated Liaison Person (DSL) /Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) or directly to Tulsa.</p> <p>The BMF undertakes to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Children/young people are not left unattended;</li> <li>● Adequate numbers of workers/volunteers are available to supervise the activities</li> <li>● BMF staff /volunteers know at all times where children/young people are and what they are doing.</li> </ul>
<p>Risk of harm of a child from unauthorised photography, video, and other media</p>	<p>Permission must be sought from the parents/guardians for photos/ videos to be permitted to be taken by audience members during BMF events.</p> <p>In the case that permission is not granted, only professional photographers and videographers engaged</p>

	by the BMF are permitted to take photographs or videos during events.
Accident or fall on-site	<p>BMF first aid trained personnel on-site, along with a first aid box. Accident log book filled in.</p> <p>The BMF undertakes to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The buildings being used are safe and meet required standards;</li> <li>● There is sufficient heating and ventilation;</li> <li>● Food preparation areas, where they exist, are sanitary and meet food safety requirements;</li> <li>● Toilets, shower areas and washing facilities are to standard and meet the accessibility requirements of all members;</li> <li>● Fire precautions are in place;</li> <li>● First aid facilities and equipment are adequate;</li> <li>● There is access to a phone;</li> <li>● Equipment is checked regularly;</li> <li>● Insurance cover is adequate.</li> </ul>
Use of toilet and kitchen areas for young children	Supervision throughout the building by BMF staff/volunteers.
Risk of harm of a child on outings by a member of staff/volunteer/peer or travelling between BMF venues.	<p>Children must be supervised at all times by a BMF garda vetted adult(s), at an appropriate ratio of children to adults.</p> <p>Risk assessments are completed in advance of outings by the DLP or DDLP.</p> <p>The BMF undertakes to ensure that there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Safe methods of transport;</li> <li>● Adequate insurance to cover all aspects of the trip;</li> <li>● Written parental consent (for each individual trip);</li> <li>● Any information about the children/young people which may be relevant to staying away overnight, e.g. allergies, medical problems, special needs, etc.;</li> <li>● Number of workers/volunteers required to adequately supervise children/young people at all times;</li> <li>● Appropriate and well supervised sleeping arrangements;</li> <li>● Respect for the privacy of children and young people in dormitories, changing rooms, showers and toilets.</li> </ul>

Risk of harm of a child by a member of staff/volunteer/peer.	Children must be supervised at all times by BMF garda vetted adults. Parents/guardians are invited to accompany students during BMF activities.
Risk of harm of a child by a visitor/contractor	Children must be supervised at all times by BMF garda vetted adults.
Risk of harm of bullying of a child by a member of staff/volunteer/peer.	The BMF has a strict anti-bullying policy. This can be found in the Child Protection and Welfare Policy.
Risk of harm of a child from online abuse through social media or internet access.	All parents and Young Persons (Young Artist participants) are asked to read the BMF Code of Behaviour for Young Persons/Children. This can be found in the BMF Child Protection and Welfare Policy.
Risk of harm to a child due to a failure of recognition of abuse or to report suspicions or allegations of abuse to Tusla.	The definitions and indicators of abuse and reporting procedures are outlined in the Child and Welfare Protection Policy. The information was found in the Children First Act 2015, <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children</i> (2017).  BMF artists, facilitators and volunteers are asked to become familiar with the BMF Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection and Welfare Policy.

**Procedures**

The BMF 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:

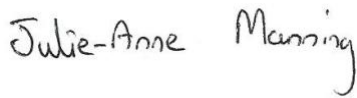
- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service;
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children;
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training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

All procedures listed are available upon request.

## Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. We are committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while participating in BMF activities. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:



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Signed:



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