



Registered Charity 260887

Orpheus Young Singers (run by Brighton Orpheus Choir) - Anti-bullying policy

Adapted from Safe Networks tool C1

We recognise that:

- bullying is “behaviour, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group, physically or emotionally”.
- Safe from bullying in youth activities, DCSF 2009.
- one person or a group can bully others;
- bullying can occur either face to face between individuals or groups or online, using information technology, such as computers or mobile phones;
- bullying can include:
 - verbal teasing or making fun of someone;
 - excluding children from games and conversations;
 - pressurising other children not to be friends with the person who is being bullied;
 - spreading hurtful rumours or passing round inappropriate photographs/images/drawings;
 - stealing or damaging someone’s belongings;
 - making threats;
 - forcing someone to do something embarrassing, harmful or dangerous;
 - harassment on the basis of race, gender, sexuality or disability;
 - physical or sexual assault (although all sexual incidents and all but very minor physical incidents constitute abuse and must be dealt with in accordance with child protection procedures).
- bullying causes real distress. It can affect a person’s health and development and, at the extreme, can cause significant harm;
- people are often targeted by bullies because they appear different from others;
- we all have a role to play in preventing bullying and putting a stop to bullying.

The purpose of this policy is:

- to prevent bullying from happening in our organisation, as much as possible;
- when bullying does happen, to make sure it is stopped as soon as possible and that those involved receive the support they need;
- to provide information to all staff, volunteers, children and their families about what we should all do to prevent and deal with bullying.

We will seek to prevent bullying by:

1. Developing a code of behaviour that sets out the “dos” and “don’ts” in terms of how everyone involved in Orpheus Young Singers (run by Brighton Orpheus Choir) is expected to behave, both in face-to-face contact and online;
2. Developing a new members’ welcome policy that will help Orpheus Young Singers (run by Brighton Orpheus Choir) to attract members from diverse groups;
3. Developing a plan that describes how we welcome new members and help them to settle in;
4. Holding regular discussions with staff, volunteers, children, young people and families who use Orpheus Young Singers (run by Brighton Orpheus Choir) to ensure that they understand our anti-bullying policy. These discussions will focus on:
 - a) group members’ responsibilities to look after one another and uphold the behaviour code;
 - b) practising skills such as listening to each other;
 - c) respecting the fact that we are all different;
 - d) making sure that no one is without friends;
 - e) dealing with problems in a positive way;
 - f) checking that the anti-bullying measures are working well.
5. Developing a complaints policy and procedure;
6. Making sure that staff, volunteers, children and young people, and parents and carers have clear information about our anti-bullying policy, complaints procedure, code of behaviour and anti-bullying procedure.

When bullying occurs, we will respond to it by:

1. Having a clear anti-bullying procedure in place;
2. Providing support and training for all staff and volunteers on dealing with all forms of bullying, including racial, sexist, homophobic and sexual bullying;
3. Addressing the issue from the point of view of the person being bullied, the bully, any bystanders and Orpheus Young Singers as a whole;
4. Reviewing the plan developed to address the bullying, in order to ensure that the problem has been resolved;
5. Avoiding any punishments that make the individuals concerned seem small, or look or feel foolish in front of others.

Monitoring and review

Richard Jayawant (Named Person for Child Protection) is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of this policy.

This policy will be reviewed every two years. The next review is due on: ...July 2021..... (date)

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