

# CHILD & VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION POLICY



The safety of children and vulnerable adults is paramount and all, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse. Procedures are in place and must be understood by all those involved in order to promote and maintain a safe and welcoming environment.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Shetland Accordion & Fiddle Festival and Club are keen to nurture and encourage young people & vulnerable adults to develop their skills as players and performers, as well as providing a safe environment for vulnerable groups visiting these events.
- 1.1 This policy relates to children under the age of 18 years and those vulnerable adults of any age who are identified to the organisers prior to their arrival at the Festival/Club. In recognising the needs of all performers, those from all ethnic groups and those with special needs, we actively seek to meet the needs notified to the Festival/Club by parents, guardians, carers, teachers & Social Work.
- 1.2 This should be done by contacting the Festival/Club - contact details are available on the contact us page of our website – [www.shetlandaccordionandfiddle.com](http://www.shetlandaccordionandfiddle.com)

## 2 THE FESTIVAL/CLUB ENVIRONMENT

- 2.1 The venues used by the Shetland Accordion and Fiddle Festival/Club for performances will be recognised theatres and community buildings, public halls. Community buildings and halls may well have areas which are open to the public – other than those attending the Festival/Club.
- 2.2 It is our policy to inform and involve teachers, parents, guardians and carers in partnership, in order to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable, a safe environment at the Festival/Club.
- 2.3 The Shetland Accordion and Fiddle Festival/Club is run by volunteers, with the professional assistance of artists, tutors, accompanists and teachers.

## 3 FESTIVAL/CLUB PERSONNEL

- 3.1 Festival/Club personnel are recruited by personal recommendations from the Committee. During the Festival/Club all Committee Members and volunteers will wear identification badges.
- 3.1 Anyone so identified can be approached and will be able to give directions to the appropriate committee member who will deal with any problem. Every problem will be taken seriously, and will be documented and dated.

## 4 PREPARATION FOR ATTENDANCE OR PARTICIPATION IN THE FESTIVAL/CLUB.

- 4.1 Local bands involving children and/or vulnerable adults who have been invited to perform will be notified of the Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection and Safety policies for the Festival/Club. Parents, guardians or carers of children who are not personally attending with their children should ensure that their children are accompanied and adequately supervised at the Festival/Club by responsible adults acting on their behalf.
- 4.2 Children entered as part of a school group will be supervised by school appointed adults as specified by local authority guidelines.

## **5 PERFORMANCE AND PRACTICE/SESSION AREAS**

- 5.1 Voluntary stewards will be in attendance in the Festival/Club and at the various venues where local bands perform at.
- 5.2 Parents, guardians, carers and teachers are responsible and should ensure that children or vulnerable adults are adequately supervised at all times.

## **6 PHOTOGRAPHS, VIDEO FOOTAGE, LIVE STREAMING AND PRESS PHOTOGRAPHY**

- 6.1 There is no prohibition on photography, video or audio recording of performances within the venues provided these are of a general nature. Live Streaming, is however prohibited at all venues. Permission must be sought for use in social media posts and must be of a general nature of performances only. Authorised photographers are permitted to photograph, video or take audio recordings of performances under the direction of Festival/Club Committee and stewards and must seek permission from the subject person for its use. It will be for parents, carers, teachers and schools to inform the Committee if a child or vulnerable adult should not be photographed.

## **7 THE LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE THAT SUPPORTS THIS POLICY**

- 7.1 The Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act, 2007; Children and Young People (Scotland) Act, 2014; Children (Scotland) Act, 1995; Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007. Shetland Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures 2024; . Shetland Inter-Agency Adult Protection Procedures 2024;
- 7.2 [www.safershetland.com](http://www.safershetland.com)

## **8 RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONCERNS**

- 8.1 The Shetland Accordion and Fiddle Festival/Club is organised by a voluntary committee has a responsibility to refer any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a child or vulnerable adult to the appropriate agency for investigation (Duty social worker 01595 744400).
- 8.2 Any concern about a child or vulnerable adult should be referred to any Committee Member who should take all appropriate actions about the concerns including contacting appropriate authorities.
- 8.3 In the case of emergency, any Committee Member will ensure that medical attention is received or the Police alerted as appropriate. The Police have power to act immediately to protect a child or vulnerable adult.

## **9 POLICY REVIEW**

- 9.1 The Shetland Accordion and Fiddle Festival/Club Committee will keep its policy under review, upgrading it as necessary.

**Initial Policy Created: 08 August 2022**

**Policy Reviewed : 19 Jan 2026**