

New Ross and District Pipe Band



Child Safeguarding Statement

The New Ross & District Pipe Band has an active programme of recruiting juveniles to the organisation for the purpose of learning how to play pipes and drums.

The New Ross & District Pipe Band has a juvenile section and is also welcoming of vulnerable adults. The band is fully committed to the welfare of all its members.

The New Ross and District Pipe Band is an open and welcoming band to persons from all walks of life, from all nationalities, colours or creeds. It is non-political and non-sectarian.

Band membership currently stands at 45 persons which is a mixture of juveniles and adults.

Our band regularly takes part in the following types of activity:

- Practice sessions and rehearsals
- Street Parades
- Solo and Band Competitions
- Recitals
- Concerts
- Fund-raising activities
- Seminars and Training courses

Our band practices in the following premises:

Old CBS Primary School, New Ross.
Edmund Rice Senior Primary School, New Ross.

Practice Structure

- Practices will sometimes involve drummers and pipers practicing separately and will sometimes consist of the full pipe band practicing together
- All our tutors are Garda Vetted
- Children in the band are dropped to practice by parents and collected when practice finishes
- An adult is always designated to remain with children until a parent arrives

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while a member of our band. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

Risk Identified	Procedures in place
To avoid any inappropriate contact between adults and juveniles by sms, etc.	All contact with Under 18s from the band organisers and tutors is with parents only. The band does not hold or ask for mobile numbers from U18s.
To avoid any inappropriate contact between adults and children at practice or via social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All tutors are Garda Vetted. • Practices are held in open spaces with clear glass windows. • A tutor working with children must always have another person present in the room. • Adults in the band are not permitted to befriend children on Facebook, Snapchat, etc.
Home Time	An adult will always remain with children until parents have arrived.
Honouring Children First Guidelines	A designated Liaison Person has been appointed in the band.
Ensuring children are respected at practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only designated instructors in the band are allowed offer advice on playing technique, uniform, etc. • Practices are organised in a positive manner.
Children who might be unable to get to practice because of lack of transport	The situation is monitored closely and alternative transport is offered.
Children who might be unable to afford band subscriptions, contributions, fares, etc.	This is closely monitored and where it occurs, all monetary charges are discreetly and privately waived for the said family.

Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, 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 adult members or the tutors of a child availing of our service
- Procedure for the safe selection of volunteers to work with children
- 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.

Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our band is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while members of our band.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed prior to the band AGM each year, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: _____
Child Protect Officer, New Ross and District Pipe Band

Signed: _____
Chairman, New Ross and District Pipe Band