



# Wren Music

## Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults

Also known as **Adults at Risk**, this addendum should be considered alongside the document **Wren Music Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy & Procedure**.

A vulnerable adult is defined as someone aged 18 or over who may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may not be able to take care of him or herself, or is unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.

Wren Music has a robust safeguarding policy in relation to the children and young people it works with and much of this is equally applicable to vulnerable adults, or adults at risk who are protected under the Care Act 2014.

The elements of Prevention, Protection, Guidance and support as detailed on Page 2-6 of the Wren Music Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedure document are applicable.

There are, however, some factors specific to safeguarding vulnerable adults.

### Aims in safeguarding vulnerable adults

- To prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse or neglect to adults with care and support needs
- To safeguard individuals in a way that supports them in making choices and having control in how they lead their lives.
- To promote an outcomes approach in safeguarding that works for people resulting in the best experiences possible
- To raise public awareness so that professionals, other staff and communities as a whole play their part in preventing, identifying and responding to abuse and neglect.

### Recognising abuse of adults at risk

Vulnerable adults may be subject to:

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse, including coercive relationships
- Psychological abuse/bullying/name-calling
- Financial abuse, including exploitation of labour (at its most extreme modern slavery)
- Cyber abuse, including coercion into making pornographic images or introduction to extremist websites which can lead to radicalisation

When working with adults at risk the following principles should be observed

- **Empowerment** People are supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and give informed consent to concerns being raised.  
*"I am asked what I want from the safeguarding process and this directly informs what happens"*
- **Prevention** It is better to take action before harm occurs  
*"I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is. I know how to recognise the signs and I know what I can do to seek help"*
- **Proportionality** The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.  
*"I am sure the professionals will work in my interest and they will only get involved as much as necessary."*
- **Partnership** Organisations offer local solutions through working closely with their communities.  
*"I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me."*
- **Accountability** Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding  
*"I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they"*

## Reporting a concern

In the event of suspicion of abuse the member of staff will consult with the Designated Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Officer with a clear written record of concerns.

If, after discussion, it is deemed that further action should be taken a referral will be made to the relevant Local Authority [www.devonsafeguardingadultspartnership.org.uk](http://www.devonsafeguardingadultspartnership.org.uk)

Phone numbers for Devon, Torbay and Plymouth are on this site along with useful guidance.

The organisation - in providing goods and/or services and/or facilities - is also committed against unlawful discrimination of the public.