

Cambridgeshire Caledonian Pipe Band (CCPB)

Advice to Parents

1. Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups

Membership of a pipe band can play a positive role in the lives of many children and young people. The pipe band can help children and young people develop musical knowledge and performance skills as well as gaining important social and life skills.

It is important that everyone in the pipe band world does as much as possible to create and maintain an enjoyable and safe environment and as a parent or carer, you play a very important role in protecting your child. The information you give your child and the example you set, can provide your child with the knowledge and confidence needed to deal with potentially threatening or abusive situations.

Before you enrol your child with the CCPB, you may wish to consider how the pipe band is run. This is your responsibility. This document gives advice to help you ask the right questions about important child protection measures that all pipe bands should have in place and the CCPB welcomes your questions and suggestions about how they will keep your child safe.

The CCPB is registered with RSPBA (<https://rspba.org/>, Reg No 851), a useful resource for advice on all matters relating to Pipe Band music and education.

Before you enrol your son or daughter with the CCPB, there are a number of key areas you may wish to consider in relation to the safety of your child with regard to the commitment of the pipe band to good practice and child protection.

The CCPB Policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups is available on the CCPB website or can be obtained from the CCPB designated CPO, who will also be happy to discuss any other concerns you may have:

Martin Snead

DBS Enhanced cert No: 001715668936 (5/11/20)

Child Safeguarding Level 3 (14/1/22)

Contact details:

Mobile 07887-747-427

Events away from home: Ask about what arrangements the pipe band makes to ensure children are kept safe when they take part in competitions or events away from home.

2. Things to watch out for

The following may alert you to any inappropriate situations that may be affecting your child:

- Activities where parents are discouraged from staying to watch or from becoming involved.
- Individuals who take charge and operate independently of organisational guidelines.
- Individuals who show favouritism or personally reward specific children.
- Encouragement of inappropriate physical contact.
- Poor communication and negative responses to questions about safeguards for your child.
- Children who drop out or stop going for no apparent reason.
- Invitations for children to spend time alone with staff or volunteers (or even to visit their home).
- If you feel any of the above may be happening, contact the CCPB CPO immediately.

3. Helping your child

Naturally, you will want your child to enjoy participating in pipe band activities. However, it is important that you inform your child what to do if he/she feels that they are being badly treated by someone who is supposed to be instructing or looking after them.

If your child experiences such behaviour, you may notice a change in behaviour — possibly appearing worried or not wanting to take part in pipe band activity. Talk to your child but understand that your child may find it difficult to open up immediately. Please ensure that you remember to tell your child that it is not their fault.

Your child may be upset or frightened by witnessing bad behaviour by a member of staff towards one of their friends. You can help by making sure that the matter is taken forward. You can also let them know that their friend should tell an adult they trust as soon as possible.

This could be:

The Child Protection Officer for the CCPB

A parent or guardian, or someone else in their family

Another member of staff in the pipe band

A teacher or school counsellor

Their doctor or school nurse

Another adult they may trust