***Code of Conduct***

This Code of Conduct applies to all members, volunteers or anyone working on behalf of **LYMPSTONE ACADEMY BRASS**.

As a Band, we respect and promote freedom of expression and open communication. The Band recognise the rights of all Band Members to be treated as individuals and will not condone or allow any form of unlawful discrimination to go unchallenged. The Band will not tolerate discriminatory behaviour, harassment or victimisation of any kind. To ensure this, we expect all Members and volunteers to follow our Code of Conduct, in order to foster a well-organised, respectful and collaborative environment where every individual has the opportunity to enjoy brass banding.  
**As individuals of the Band we agree to the following:**

**Member Commitment**

* I acknowledge that accepting a position as a member/associate of the Band involves the commitment of significant amounts of time and energy.
* I will involve myself actively in the work of the Band and accept my fair share of responsibilities, providing I am physically able.  This includes, but is not limited to: Punctual attendance at rehearsals and performances, attendance at the AGM, private practice, helping to set up/down equipment etc.
* If I am unable to attend, or expect to be late, I will report to the relevant person as soon as possible.  In the event of short notice, or last minute unavailability, I will make every effort to inform the MD or relevant Band Officer in person, or by telephone/text as soon as possible.  Deputy players must be discussed with the MD.
* When representing the Band in a personal capacity, I will acknowledge my underlying responsibility as a member and maintain the Band’s professionalism and integrity at all times.
* I will strive to work as a team, in which constructive working relationships are actively promoted.
* I will act kindly and without prejudice towards other Band Members and the general public.
* I will support the MD and the Committee in their roles and responsibilities of furthering the future success and sustainability of the Band.
* I am prepared to support Committee Members in relation to delegated functions where possible.
* I will be mindful of my responsibility to uphold the ethos and reputation of the Band.

**Appropriate Behaviours**

* Treat other Band Members, including children and young people, with respect and dignity.
* Encourage and support children and young people in the Band, but avoid having (or being perceived to have) ‘favourites’.
* In general, avoid being alone with children and young people under 18 who are Band Members, unless you are their parent or carer.
* Avoid physical contact with children and young people in the Band unless it is necessary for a particular activity or if the person in question or someone at risk from them has been, or is about to be injured.
* If physical contact cannot be avoided, seek permission of the child or young person wherever possible and ensure they are comfortable with what you are going to do.
* If a child, young person or vulnerable adult talks to you about something confidential, ensure that they understand that you will not share the information without their consent except in specific circumstances relating to child protection or safeguarding.
* If you are told or see something regarding a child, young person or vulnerable adult that causes you to have a safeguarding concern, follow the Band’s safeguarding procedures and contact the Welfare Officer as soon as possible.
* Outside band activities, try to avoid contacting children or young people who are Band Members unless this is via their parents and part of a family friendship.
* Be aware that children and young people in the Band will look up to you; it is important that you model responsible and considerate behaviours associated with appropriate professional / personal boundaries.
* Do not give your personal telephone number or email address to children or young people in the Band.
* Do not develop individual friendships with children and young people in the Band except as part of a family friendship.
* Be mindful of your use of language during band activities, especially when children and young people are around.
* If you are involved with the Band in a teaching or leading capacity, do not, in general, accept, or give, gifts or money to children or young people you work with.  If you are presented with a token ‘thank you’ gift from a child, accept it with thanks and inform the Welfare Officer. If you wish to present a token gift to a child or young person for a specific reason, this should be discussed and agreed in advance with the Welfare Officer.

**Inappropriate Behaviours:**

Inappropriate Behaviours include, but are not limited to the following:

* Hitting or striking another Band Member, whether this is a child or adult.
* Verbally abusing (including shouting or swearing at) another Band Member.
* Deliberately humiliating or undermining another Band Member.
* Inappropriate intimate touching, sexual conversations - or use of sexual innuendo - with a child or young person, or in the presence of a child or young person.
* Developing, or implying, sexual relationships with children and young people in the Band.
* Encouraging, or knowingly being involved in, another Band Member committing a crime.
* Taking illegal substances before or during band activities.
* Being intoxicated at a band event.
* Using digital technology to groom a child or adult or to abuse them in any way.
* Creating, sharing or downloading abusive images of children or adults.
* Bringing the Band into disrepute through inappropriate use of social media.

**Property Care**

* Members are expected to keep their uniform clean, maintained and secure.
* Members who are issued with band property, including items of uniform, instruments, lyres and mutes will be required to sign the appropriate property register on issue of the property.  The register will also be signed off when the item is returned to the Band.
* Members are expected to maintain any property issued to them, keeping it clean and in good working order.  Any damage or concerns about instruments or other equipment should be reported to the relevant Committee Member as soon as possible.  Equipment should also be stored securely when not in use.
* Members will return to the Band any property issued to them, when requested by the Executive Committee or when leaving the Band.
* Playing members are expected to keep music parts in good order and tidy within the rehearsal and engagement folders.
* Members who wish to borrow individual parts of music from the Library will be required to sign the Music Loan Register, and return the music at the earliest opportunity.
* Members will respect all kinds of incorporeal property (such as trademarks and copyright).

**Personal Appearance**

Members will follow the Band’s dress code and personal appearance guidelines when performing:

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| * Uniform - Formal: | Black Shirt, Red Bow Tie, black trousers, socks and shoes. |
| * Uniform - Informal: | Band Red Polo Shirt, black trousers, socks and shoes. |
| * Appearance: | Clean and tidy. |

**Conflicts of Interest**

* Members will declare any conflicts of interest should they arise.
* Members will record any pecuniary or other business interests that they have in connection with the Band’s business.  If any such conflicted matter arises they will elect to be absent for an appropriate length of time.
* Members will act in the best interests of the Band as a whole and not as a representative of any other group.

**Confidentiality**

* All Band Members (and their responsible adults) will observe complete confidentiality when matters are deemed confidential, or where they concern specific Band Members, at all times, unless as defined in the Band’s Safeguarding Policy.
* All Band Members (or their responsible adult) will not pass on Band contact details without the express permission of the Member concerned.
* All Band Members (or their responsible adult) will sign the Membership Form to confirm that they have read and understood the Band’s Privacy Policy.

**Compliance**

* Members will protect the Band’s legality regarding all environmental, safety and fair dealing laws.

**Breaching the Code of Conduct**

In the event of a member of the Band not adhering to this Code of Conduct, or of any other band policy, the Band reserves the right to investigate and take the necessary action to protect the integrity of the Band and its Members.

The investigation will allow the Band Committee to gain the necessary information relating to the breach.  A meeting will then take place between members of the committee and the member involved in the breach of practice.  During this meeting the member will be given full opportunity to put across their case.  They will also be entitled to representation from either another member of the band or other suitable representative.  Based on the information given, the Committee will then consider any sanctions that are required to further protect the integrity of the Band and Band Members.  The member involved has the right to appeal a committee decision.  This appeal should be made in writing to the Committee within 14 days of being informed of the outcome of the investigation.

The Committee will only use dismissal as a last resort after seeking to resolve any difficulties or disputes in more constructive ways; however, if the behaviour or alleged behaviour suggests that the Band Member may pose a safeguarding risk to children, young people or adults either in the Band or in the wider community, then safeguarding procedures will be followed as soon as the allegation or concern comes to light, and statutory authorities will be informed as appropriate.

All children and young people attending the Band will be made aware of this Code of Conduct [or version written for children and young people] and it will be explained to them with a parent/guardian present if necessary.  Their parent/guardian is to confirm that they have seen, understood and agree to follow it.  They must also be made aware of the consequences if they breach the code, as outlined below:

1. If a child or young person breaches the Code of Conduct, the most appropriate sanction for a minor or first time breach will be to remind him/her about the Code of Conduct, explain what they have done wrong and ask them to comply with it in future.  Children and young people will be given the opportunity to reflect, enabling them to plan a positive response, with support from mentors.
2. If, having followed the above step, the child or young person continues to exhibit inappropriate behaviour, she/he should be referred to the appropriate Committee Member who would give them a formal warning.  Supportive interventions may need to be identified at this stage.  The action should also be recorded and parents/carers informed.
3. Further/persistent inappropriate behaviour will result in a more serious sanction being imposed (e.g. restriction/suspension from the Band’s facilities). Again, supportive interventions may need to be identified at this stage and action should be recorded and parents/carers informed.
4. If interventions are not effective in helping the child/young person to change his/her behaviour, a further warning may be needed, along with further sanctions.  At this point that the Band will discuss options with their parent/carer and refer to other services for further support as appropriate.

**Disciplinary Actions**

The Band may have to take disciplinary action against Band Members and volunteers who repeatedly or intentionally fail to follow our Code of Conduct.  Disciplinary actions will vary depending on the violation and will be at the discretion of the MD and Committee.

Possible disciplinary action includes:

* Verbal/written warnings
* Instant dismissal

The Band may take legal action in cases of corruption, theft, embezzlement or other unlawful behaviour.

As mentioned above, if the behaviour or alleged behaviour suggests that the Band Member may pose a safeguarding risk to children, young people or adults either in the Band or in the wider community, then safeguarding procedures will be followed as soon as the allegation or concern comes to light, and statutory authorities will be informed as appropriate.

**Code of Conduct: Adopted / Reviewed**

This policy was first adopted on: …………/……/……………………… (Date)

This policy was last reviewed on: …………/……/……………………… (Date)

Signed by (signature): ………………………………………………………… (Band Welfare Officer)

Signed by (print): ………………………………………………………………… (Band Welfare Officer)