

Intervarsity Folk Dance Festival

Child Safeguarding Policy

1. Policy Statement

IVFDF Online 2021 are committed to safeguarding children who may attend the festival.

IVFDF Online 2021 uses the definition of children that is in use under current UK law.

IVFDF Online 2021 defines a child as any individual under the age of 18.

2. The Online Environment

IVFDF Online 2021 will be held online.

All attendees will attend via teleconference software from their place of residence or other chosen location. The responsibility for child protection lies with the responsible adult at those locations.

Throughout this document the terms “attend” “attending” and “attendees” should be read in this context.

Attendees under 16

IVFDF is predominantly a festival for university students. It is therefore acknowledged that attendees may be aged 16 as this is the age that most UK universities will accept students.

In addition it is acknowledged that some festival attendees may wish to bring their children to the festival.

The Conditions of Sale of the University of Bristol SU website require purchasers to be adults.

Attendees under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or responsible adult who has been delegated the role by the parent or guardian.

The responsible adult must have purchased a ticket to attend IVFDF Online 2021 and must be attending the festival for the same duration as the child.

Where the child attends a UK university the responsible adult may be an individual over the age of 18 attending the same university.

University societies bringing students under 18 to IVFDF Online 2021 are also expected to follow their own university and procedures and guidelines around child safeguarding.

For this section the term “chaperone” should be read as “an adult present in the room when video or audio lines are open to other attendees of the festival”.

Children aged 16 and 17 do not require their responsible adult to chaperone them at all times.

Children aged 11 to 16 may attend workshops without their responsible adult, but should be chaperoned for the duration of the festival.

Children under 11 may not attend festival events without their responsible adult being present.

In order to enforce these rules IVFDF Online 2021 reserves the right to remove attendees who leave under 16's unchaperoned frequently or for extended lengths of time.

IVFDF Online 2021 will take all possible steps to ensure that festival volunteers are not in a situation where they are alone with an under 18 festival attendee.

3. Ticket sales

IVFDF Online 2021 will be unable to take responsibility for any individual under the age of 18 who falsely informs the festival that they are over the age of 18.

4. Incident reporting

IVFDF Online 2021 will operate an incident reporting pathway. Incidents involving a festival attendee under the age of 18 must be reported as soon as possible on a best endeavours basis to the Safeguarding Officer.

Where necessary the Safeguarding Officer will investigate any incidents, and take any necessary steps to protect the individuals involved. The Safeguarding Officer will maintain a full record of all concerns raised and actions taken.

The Safeguarding Officer will be independent of the IVFDF Online 2021 festival committee.

A summary of safeguarding incidents will be reported at the ARM by the Safeguarding Officer. This will be done with due regard for child protection.

5. Risk assessment

IVFDF Online 2021 will carry out an appropriate risk assessment in relation to allowing attendees under the age of 18.

Where it is known that there will be attendees under the age of 18 at IVFDF Online 2021 the festival committee will take steps to ensure that festival volunteers are briefed in relation to this policy and the risk assessment.