

Hastings River Brass Incorporated

Child Protection Policy (2023)

Hastings River Brass is a not-for-profit community brass band open to brass and percussion players of all ages. As part of its commitment to child safety and welfare, Hastings River Brass has developed this Child Protection Policy.

At the time of writing this policy, Hastings River Brass is a mixed age band*. It is Hastings River Brass' policy that the musical director of the band will hold a current NSW Working with Children Check. Other persons asked to conduct the band or be the leader of a group or tutorial session involving children will also be required to have a current Working With Children Check. The Working With Children Check numbers for these people will be held by the secretary and will be available to other committee members on request.

As per 'Working With Children Requirements for Community Bands in NSW', available at <https://bandnsw.com/privacy-and-policies-page/>, members of a community band ARE NOT required to have a working with children check just to play in a band that has members who are under 18.

Child protection is everyone's responsibility. If an adult has reasonable concern that an incident concerning the safety of a child has occurred (this includes any mention by a child of inappropriate behaviour of an adult towards them) then they must report the incident to the musical director, secretary or president of Hastings River Brass who will gain assistance from the Child Protection Helpline ([13 21 11](tel:132111)).

The person in charge of a rehearsal / session will take reasonable steps to lead a process of monitoring for child safety. Examples include:

- Suspicious behaviour (eg an adult following child to the toilets)
- Adults offering to take a member who is under 18 to and from band rehearsals where noone else is present in the vehicle
- Requesting members who wish to be involved in mentoring players who are under 18 (in a greater capacity than they are able to do while playing alongside them in a band rehearsal) register this interest with the committee and provide a Working With Children Check number.

*Last updated July 2023. This policy should be reviewed should Hastings River Brass grow to develop a junior band.