

Child Protection Policy



We will create a safe and welcoming environment for all. We believe that no child or young person should be the subject of neglectful or abusive behaviour.

We will promote and maintain the welfare of every child in our care and seek to protect them from harm regardless of race, age, disability, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief or any other form of identity or creed.

This policy applies to all our staff and volunteers and covers children under the age of 18 and/or vulnerable adults under the age of 24.

To protect children and young people in our care, we will:

- Value and respect children and listen to what they have to say
- Work with children, parents and relevant organisations
- Share our policy with all staff, parents and students
- Ensure all required checks are made when hiring staff and that those in regular contact with children hold a current DBS check
- Provide appropriate training and support to all staff
- Take responsibility for children and young people's safety when in our care
- Seek permission from parents before taking images (photographs or film) of students and inform them how and where the images will be used
- Report suspected neglect or abuse to the nominated member of staff, relevant organization, or police
- Ensure that this policy is kept up to date

Additional guidance can be found in the following documents at the end of this policy:

- Reporting suspected Neglect or abuse
- Appropriate Physical Contact in Dance

This policy was last reviewed on: 08/03/2023

Name: Kimberly Creak

Job Title: School Principal

Additional Guidance A:

Reporting Suspected Neglect or Abuse

Concerns regarding a child's welfare can be reported by:

- Parents
- Friends
- Teachers
- The child or young person

All allegations of neglect or abuse will be taken seriously. If a concern is reported directly by the child or young person we will not seek to disagree, ask probing or leading questions, or do anything which may discourage them.

We will make it clear that reported concerns cannot be kept confidential but will need to be shared with a nominated member of staff or external organization. Parents or guardians will also be involved if appropriate.

We recognize that early action is vital. Any concerns will be reported immediately.

If the child or young person is in immediate danger or harm, we will contact the police.

In all other cases, we will report the concerns to the local Protection Team on **0300 123 4043**

Additional Guidance B:

Appropriate Physical Contact in Dance

Teaching dance is a physical activity and a teacher will sometimes need to make physical contact with a student to show an idea or to correct the student's position. This can include:

- Lifting
- Adjusting arms, legs, rib cage, hips, feet, hands, headline
- Moving one student in relation to another

Where contact is needed, we will remain sensitive to the student's wishes and put their welfare first. In all cases, we will say why and how we will be correcting the students position before making any contact.

We encourage students to report any concerns.