

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Last updated: November 2023

In order to 'Improve Practice with Ongoing Vigilance,' Prima Dance Academy recognises the vital importance of 'Safeguarding' throughout its organisation.

Prima Dance Academy adheres to the Code of Conduct for Professional Practice outlined by the Royal Academy of Dance. In addition to this, the following Prima Dance Academy Child Protection Policy should be adhered to by all and followed;

Prima Dance Academy acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with the best practice of the Royal Academy of Dance requirements. Prima Dance Academy will use their expertise and professional judgement, along with their human experience and intuition to protect its pupils and act immediately where there are concerns for a child's wellbeing.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or socioeconomic background, all children

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of dance at Prima Dance Academy in a safe and child centred environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in dance or outside of the activity.

Prima Dance Academy acknowledges that some children, including disabled children and young people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy Prima Dance Academy will

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Prima Dance Academy.

Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance.