

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Scope

- The Dance Academy (TDA) is a triple threat dance school with musical theatre and performance at the core.
- This policy applies to all staff, whether paid or unpaid, including teachers, parents and volunteers. This includes students of the school who may provide support to children or young people where appropriate.

Purpose

- The Dance Academy (TDA) takes its duty in regard to the safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children seriously.
- Our purpose is to provide a fun, happy and friendly environment for children and parents, with a distinct community spirit. An environment in which children and young people are able to feel safe, secure, valued and respected.
- We will ensure that students are protected and safeguard the wellbeing of everyone, as children and young people have a fundamental right to be protected from harm.
- We strongly believe in promoting an anti-bullying environment and ensuring all students experience a friendly environment.

Policy

- Our students have the right to expect us to provide them with a safe and secure environment. We also recognise that the protection of our students is a shared community responsibility.
- We will always ensure that all children and young people have the same protection regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity.
- We recognise that the child's welfare and needs are paramount, and the needs and wishes of each child, regardless of age, should be put first, so that every child receives the support they need before a problem escalates.
- Anyone working or supporting the School who may come into contact with the children are to be alert of any risks of harm that may occur to children.
- Should any potential risks to a child or young person's wellbeing be identified, the principal of the School must be made aware immediately.
- All concerns, and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by the principal, and responded to appropriately.
- This may require a referral to children's social care services, the Local Authority, and in emergencies, the police.
- All individuals working or supporting in the School are encouraged to demonstrate exemplary behaviour in order to promote the welfare of children and reduce the likelihood of allegations being made.
- We recognise that all matters relating to child protection are confidential and will disclose personal information about a student to other members of staff on a need to know basis only.
- All staff must be aware that they have a professional responsibility to share information with other agencies in order to safeguard children.
- All supporting staff recruited are ensured to have the necessary checks in place.
- All staff must be aware that they cannot promise a child to keep secrets which might compromise the child's safety or wellbeing, or that of another.
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training to ensure the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and young people.

Contact Details

- The designated person responsible for this policy and the safeguarding of children and young people at The Dance Academy is the School's Principal, Ruth De Arez Cintra.

Ruth De Arez Cintra

Principal

07955 267520

External Documents

- All staff, teachers and volunteers, have a commitment to understand and comply with this policy and the following guidance and legislation.
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-protection-system/england/legislation-policy-guidance>

This Policy is to be reviewed at least annually or sooner where necessary.