

# Child Protection Policy



The safety of children is paramount, and all, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately. All staff and volunteers at the school have a responsibility to report concerns.

## **PURPOSE AND FUNCTION OF ORGANISATION**

To provide dance classes and training to children and young adults.

## **THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT**

School staff and volunteers will use their best endeavours in co-operation with parents and other responsible adults, to ensure a safe and secure environment at all times.

## **THOSE TO WHOM THE POLICY APPLIES**

The policy applies to children under the age of 18 years.

## **SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

All teachers / guest teachers are selected subject to interviews / or recommendation as being suitably qualified to teach dance to children and young people. Staff will have Enhanced Criminal Record Disclosures and First Aid Training.

## **PREPARATION FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE SCHOOL**

A copy of this policy will be displayed on the notice boards at both premises used for teaching purposes and included in the school information packs for new pupils. It will also be able to be downloaded from the school website. From January 2011, parents of new pupils will be required to sign a clause on their Registration Form confirming they have read, understood and accept their responsibility within the policy. Parents, guardians/carers must ensure that young people under the age of 18 are accompanied and supervised at all times when not in dance class or rehearsal.

## **CHANGING AREA AND RECEPTION AREA**

Changing, toilets and reception areas are unsupervised and parents/guardians/carers should be mindful of their responsibilities under point 5 above.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS, VIDEO RECORDINGS AND PRESS PHOTOGRAPHY**

From time to time photographs or video recordings may be made by school staff or appointed professionals for use in archive or in material used in promotion of the school. If any parent/guardian/carer objects to their child appearing in such material, it is their responsibility to ensure their child is not included in the photograph or video.

## **LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE THAT SUPPORTS THIS POLICY:**

The Children Act 1989: The Police Act 1997: The Protection of Children Act 1999: The Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000: Children's Act 2004.

Any concerns relating to Child Protection issues should be addressed to the school principal, Joanna Mardon on 01404 823980 / jo@joannamardonschoolofdance.co.uk, or in writing to Lackington, Aller Grove, Whimple, Exeter, EX5 2TJ marked confidential.