

# CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

## THE DANCERS SCHOOL

This document forms the child protection policy for The Dancers School and should be followed by all teachers, assistant teachers and parent helpers during dancing lessons, examination sessions and the school dance show. The principles should apply to all children and young people attending the school but also to any vulnerable adults who participate from time to time.

The objective of The Dancers School is to provide dance classes for all sections of the community regardless of gender, age, race, religious belief or disability. We believe that no child or young person should be the subject of neglectful or abusive behaviour. We will endeavour to create a safe and welcoming environment for all.

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
- Ensure all required checks are made if hiring staff and that those in regular contact with children hold a current DBS check
- 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
- Appropriate Physical Contact in Dance
- Use of Photographs and Film of Children

The school aims to provide a safe environment where children can learn in suitable secure surroundings under the care of fully qualified, registered, insured and DBS checked teachers. Teachers are aided from time to time with assistant teachers, who teach under the guidance of the main teacher, and from parent helpers during shows. We aim to ensure a DBS checked adult is always in attendance to supervise, and group numbers and class sizes are limited to ensure a suitable ratio of care. All staff, voluntary or otherwise, are expected to share any concerns of suspected abuse to Jayne King in the first instance and this will be acted upon immediately.

Please note that teaching and learning dance is clearly 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 will include adjusting various parts of the body and moving students around in relation to each other. Where contact is needed, we will be done sensitively and appropriately.

The Dancers School will only be responsible for children during lesson time and cannot supervise visits to the toilets nor provide constant chaperones in the changing areas or grounds around the premises. During the show, areas are supervised by chaperones and separate changing areas are provided for all ages of male and female pupils, supervised by a DBS checked series of volunteers. If necessary, one to one care can be provided during shows and exams for vulnerable pupils needing extra support, provided they attend full time school. No visitors will be allowed in changing areas nor back stage and only those adults listed on the rota will have access to back stage areas. All staff, volunteers, first aiders and DBS checked supervisors will be identified by badges.

No recordings of any kind are allowed during classes or during shows, be it photographs or video, except by a designated person making a DVD recording of a performance. All parents are asked to sign a form to agree that photos of their children could be used for promotional purposes (press releases, website, etc.) Any parent who does not wish their child to be filmed for a show DVD should notify the school in writing prior to the performance and they have full rights to ask for their child not to be filmed.

This policy is regularly updated in accordance with government guidelines.

This policy was last reviewed on 02/01/2018

Name: Jayne King

Job Title: Dance school principal

Signature: J. J. King