

## L.A. SCHOOL OF DANCE CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING POLICY

- The following policy has been drawn up in accordance with the Children Act 1989, The Protection of Children Act 1999, the Children Act 2004
- **Policy Statement**
  - The L.A. School of Dance is committed to creating an environment that enables children and young people to learn and develop in a safe, understanding and encouraging environment.
  - Our Staff recognize that it is a privilege to work with children and young people and that it is also a great responsibility. It is understood that Parents/Guardians trust our staff to look after their children during the hours of their tuition.
  - "Children and young people" refers to persons under the age of 18. However, information and advice in this policy also applies, in spirit, to those young adults over the age of 18 who are deemed vulnerable because of mental or physical disability.
  - The L.A. School of Dance will take the appropriate steps to ensure that children and young people under the age of 18yrs of age are not exposed to reasonably foreseeable risk of injury, whether to their physical or mental health and wellbeing. The L.A. School of Dance is committed to the protection from harm and the safeguarding of all children and young people who attend its activities.
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- **The L.A. School of Dance endeavors to safeguard children and young people by, recognizing it's "Duty of Care", by adopting child protection guidelines through:**
  - Ensuring that staff and assistants respond appropriately should physical or mental abuse be discovered or disclosed. Any serious incident of abuse will be recorded on an incident report form and will share information, where necessary with Parents/Guardians.
  - Ensuring that procedures for recruitment and selection of staff and assistants are rigorous.
  - Assurance of an equal opportunities commitment to training.
  - Establishing that all staff hold a valid DBS Certificate and Chaperone Licence
- **Child Protection Code of Conduct for Staff and Assistants**
  - Children and young people will be treated equally and with respect and dignity.
  - Staff and Assistants will be at all times provide an example of good conduct and be an excellent role model.
  - **The school policy is:**
    - To give enthusiastic and constructive feedback
    - To not show favoritism to any individual
    - To recognise the development needs and capacity of children and young people.
    - To challenge unacceptable behaviour

- To record any injury that occurs in the official accident book, along with any details of treatment given.
- The L.A. School of Dance has a duty of care to safeguard all children involved in dance from harm. All children have a right to protection and the needs of disabled children and others who may be particularly vulnerable must be taken into account. The L.A. School of Dance will ensure the safety and protection of all children involved in dance through adherence to the Child Protection guidelines.
- **Physical Contact**
  - Staff and assistants, may from time to time be required to undertake tasks of a personal nature for children / young people – (eg. Assist with dressing and visits to the toilet). Staff and assistants will not perform tasks of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves.
  - Physical contact in the pursuit of training in regard to the correction of physical faults may sometimes be necessary. Such physical contact will be kept to a minimum and will always be appropriate to the situation. Such contact will never be against the child/young person's will.
  - Effective management of staff and assistants will be given through supervision, support and training by the Principal or designated officer.

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