

Duet Academy of Dance

Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy

Purpose & Scope

Duet Academy of Dance works with children and families as part of its activities. These include providing dance tuition, entering children for examinations and medal tests as well as putting on performances for family and friends.

We are fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people up to the age of 18. We recognise our responsibility to take all reasonable steps to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation.

We acknowledge our duty to act appropriately to any allegations, reports or suspicions of abuse. All staff and volunteers will work together to encourage the development of an ethos which embraces difference and diversity and respects the rights of children, young people and adults.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- to protect children and young people who receive Duet Academy of Dance's services
- to provide parents, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy statement applies to anyone working on behalf of Duet Academy of Dance, including paid staff, volunteers and students.

We believe that:

- children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind
- we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing, listening to and respecting them
- appointing a designated safeguarding lead
- developing child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures which reflect best practice

- using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and dealing effectively with any bullying that does arise
- implementing effective online safety practices
- sharing information about child protection and safeguarding best practice with children, their families, staff and volunteers
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- using our procedures to manage any allegations against staff and volunteers appropriately
- ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance
- recording and storing information professionally and securely

In implementing this policy we will:

- ensure that all staff and volunteers understand their legal and moral responsibility to protect children and young people from harm, abuse and exploitation.
- ensure that all staff and volunteers understand their duty to report concerns that arise about a child or young person, or a workers conduct towards a child or young person to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- the Designated Safeguarding Lead will refer any child protection concerns to the statutory child protection agencies (i.e. Police and/or Children's Social Care).
- children, young people and parents will be informed of who the Designated Safeguarding Lead are and be able to raise any safeguarding concerns & know that these will be taken seriously and acted upon.
- ensure this policy is regularly monitored and will be subject to an annual review.

Contact details

Designated safeguarding lead:

Sara Shaw
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 17/8/23