

Child Protection Policy and Guidance

Ballet Boost acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and Ballet Boost requirements.

This document sets out the Child Protection Policy and Guidance (the “**Policy**”) for Ballet Boost which will be followed by all members of the company, including staff, pianists and chaperones.

To promote best safeguarding practice during lessons, we commit to ensuring that:

- **EVERY** teacher and chaperone (over 16 years of age) has a valid DBS certificate (undertaken and checked by us) before their employment commences with Ballet Boost;
- children are signed in to and out of the building;
- everyone is aware of the evacuation and first aid procedures; and
- parents/carers know and understand that we are only responsible for children during the signed-in period and during breaks taken within designated lesson times.

Ballet Boost knows that being a child/young person may make them vulnerable. The purpose of the Policy is to ensure that the actions of any adult in the context of the work carried out by us is transparent and to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children/young people.

If any parent or young person/child has any concerns about the conduct of any member of staff, this should be raised, in the first instance, with the Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for the venue.

These are:

Dublin- Megan Christie

Hull- Victoria Paine

Devon and Wales- Becky-Ann Camp

Manchester- Suzie Mitchell

London- Emma Northmore DSL

The DSO should then advise and continue with the procedure in the Policy. If the DSO is not contactable, then the member of staff should follow the procedure in the Policy.

The Policy is written in accordance with The Children’s Act 2004 and “Working Together to Safeguard Children” guidance 2015.

The principles upon which the Policy is based

- The welfare of a child/young person will always be paramount.
- The welfare of families will be promoted.
- The rights, wishes and feelings of children/young people and their families will be respected and listened to.
- Those people in positions of responsibility within Ballet Boost will work in accordance with the interests of children/young people and follow the Policy.

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- Those people in positions of responsibility within Ballet Boost will ensure that the same opportunities are available to everyone and that all differences between individuals will be treated with respect.

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance;
- as required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, the British Dance Council or the International Dance Teacher's Association; and/or
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

Legislation

Some of the main pieces of legislation and guidance documents that are taken into account when creating our child protection policies and procedures include:

- The Children Act 1989 (as amended)
- The Children and Social Work Act 2017
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018
- GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.
- Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners 2018