



# MELISSA'S DANCE STUDIO ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

## Policy brief & purpose

Our anti-harassment policy expresses our commitment to maintain a workplace and venue that's free of harassment, so our employees, students and parents can feel safe and happy. We will not tolerate anyone intimidating, humiliating or sabotaging others in our workplace. We also prohibit wilful discrimination based on age, sexual orientation, ethnicity, racial, religion or disability.

## Scope

This workplace harassment policy applies to all employees, contractors, public visitors, customers and anyone else whom employees come into contact with at work.

## Policy elements

### What is the definition of harassment in the workplace?

Harassment includes bullying, intimidation, direct insults, malicious gossip and victimisation. We can't create an exhaustive list, but here are some instances that we consider harassment:

- *Sabotaging someone's work on purpose.*
- *Engaging in frequent or unwanted advances of any nature.*
- *Commenting derogatorily on a person's ethnic heritage or religious beliefs.*
- *Starting or spreading rumours about a person's personal life.*
- *Ridiculing someone in front of others or singling them out to perform tasks unrelated to their job e.g. bringing coffee) against their will.*

Sexual harassment is illegal and we will seriously investigate relevant reports. If an employee is found guilty of sexual harassment, they will be terminated.

## How to address harassment

If you're being harassed, whether by a colleague, customer or vendor, you can choose to talk to any of these people:

- **Offenders.** If you suspect that an offender doesn't realise they are guilty of harassment, you could talk to them directly in an effort to resolve the issue. This tactic is appropriate for cases of minor harassment (e.g. inappropriate jokes between colleagues.) Avoid using this approach with customers or stakeholders.
- **Studio director.** Feel free to reach out to our studio director in any case of harassment no matter how minor it may seem. For your safety, contact Melissa Brown as soon as possible in cases of serious harassment. Anything you disclose will remain confidential.

### **Disciplinary Consequences**

Punishment for harassment depends on the severity of the offence and may include counselling, reprimands, suspensions or termination.