

## **Safeguarding Policy**

### *The purpose and scope of this policy statement*

The overall aim of SODA is to provide thorough, inclusive and enjoyable dance training to people of all ages and abilities. This includes classical ballet training, baby ballet as well as contemporary dance and strength and conditioning.

The purpose of this policy statement is:

- To protect children and young people who receive classes from South Oxford Dance Academy from harm. This includes any adults or children of adults who participate in our services.
- To provide staff and volunteers, as well as the children and young people and their families, with the overreaching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working for or with South Oxford Dance Academy, including volunteers, paid staff and freelance workers as well as assisting students.

## **Legal Framework**

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seek to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation and guidance is available from <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-protection-system>.

Designated Safeguarding lead (DSL) of South Oxford Dance Academy – Isabella Jenna Staines, [info@southoxforddanceacademy@gmail.com](mailto:info@southoxforddanceacademy@gmail.com), 07702035238

## **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 run our classes in a way that protects them.

## We recognise that:

- The welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions made
- Working alongside children, young people and their parents/families is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some children are additionally vulnerable. This can be due to factors such as: impact from previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Extra safeguards may be needed to keep children who are additionally vulnerable safe from harm and abuse

## More links:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/children-from-black-asian-minoritised-ethnic-communities>

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/deaf-and-disabled-children>

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/lgbtq-children-young-people>

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection-schools/safeguarding-children-with-special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send>

## We will always seek to keep children safe in our care by:

- Listening, respecting and valuing them
- Appointing a nominated safeguarding lead for children and young people
- Adopting child protection and safeguarding best practise through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for our staff/volunteers
- Developing safety procedures for different scenarios including online safety through our use of social media
- Providing effective training/support to all staff and volunteers

**South Oxford Dance Academy**

[www.southoxforddanceacademy.co.uk](http://www.southoxforddanceacademy.co.uk)

*Safeguarding policy 2024/25*

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- If/when recruiting new staff members
- Recording, storing and using information in the professional way as set out by the data protection legislation
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment to all of our classes and run events and have a policy in place to allow us to deal effectively and thoroughly with any bullying behaviour
- Ensure families/children and young people know where to access information and support if needed or how to raise any safeguarding concerns

## Contact Details

### Designated safeguarding lead (DSL)

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