

L J Dance Company
Photography, film and image sharing policy for
events and competitions

At the **L J Dance Company**, Children and their families are at the heart of the events we organise. The safety and welfare of children is our most important concern. We appreciate that children and families want memories of these events and to feel proud of all their achievements. We must also recognise that for many reasons there are many other children, young people and families who do not want their photo taken or shared or who could be placed at considerable risk if their images are shared.

At the **L J Dance Company**, we believe that no child should be harmed and that it is our duty to take appropriate action to prevent harm to children and young people and create an environment in which they can feel and be safe. As part of our duty to promote the safety and welfare of children and young people we have a duty to ensure that photographic and video footage of children is used safely and appropriately. Above all the welfare of the child is of paramount importance.

We also recognise that photographs or video of a child's achievement should be positive. Photographs will therefore only be taken that reflect positive experiences and proud moments. At the **L J Dance Company**, we want to create a culture that promotes wellbeing and creates supportive experiences for all dancers who take part in our events and this policy reflects that endeavour.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure that all children, young people and their families taking part in our events are protected.
- Ensure that our approach to photography and filming at **L J Dance Company** events is commensurate with the safeguarding duties outlines in our safeguarding policy.

This policy will:

- Outline our approach to the use of video and photography at **L J Dance Company** events.

- Ensure that **L J Dance Company** is compliant with the law regarding the safety of children and young people who are photographed or videoed.

This policy applies to ALL who attend **L J Dance Company** events. The points covered in this policy statement are reiterated in the **L J Dance Company** competitions and events code of conduct that shall be shared with all participants and spectators. Participants and spectators also have a duty to safeguarding their fellow dancers and spectators by following the good guidance outlined in the competitions and events code of conduct. This policy applies directly to anyone working at, with or on behalf of the **L J Dance Company** at competitions and events whether they be staff, contractors, volunteers, or member teachers.

Photography, filming, and consent:

- Children, young people, and their parents have a right to decide how any photo or video of them is used, shared, or stored. Photographs and video may only be used, shared, or stored with consent.
- Children, young people and their parents or carers have a right to decide whether a photograph is taken of them or their child. Photographs and video may only be taken with consent.
- Consent is only meaningful when it is informed consent. There must be understanding of where and how photos and video can be used, and the potential risks associated with this.
- It is known there are potential risks of sharing images and video footage online and if images are shared it must be with full knowledge of this.

To protect children the L J Dance Company will:

Seek consent:

- Ensure there is written consent from a parent or carer before a child is photographed or videoed.
- When consent is asked for it will be made clear how the images will be used and stored and where they will be shared.
- Families should be made aware they can decline consent.
- Families should be made aware they can change their minds and withdraw consent.

- Families must be made aware that if they withdraw consent and photos or video have already been shared on the internet it will not be possible to recover all copies of that image or remove all copies from circulation.
- Children and parents who do not consent will never be excluded from activities because they do not give consent to have their image taken.
- The **L J Dance Company** will work with the video and photographers to ensure that that child can be identified without being isolated or made to feel noticed or uncomfortable.

Protect privacy:

- Children and young people will not have their full names published alongside any photo or video of themselves that appears on social media or public webpages.
- Children will not have their full names published unless requested by parents or carers.
- If children or young people would like their full names listing in **L J Dance Company** publications this can be done with consent otherwise only first names will be published.
- Photos of children will not be published in public places such as on social media or public websites with other identifiers listed for example the child's address or the school they attend.
- Photos of children and young people will not be published to social media in a school uniform which could identify where the child spends their time.
- In private **L J Dance Company** publications children in school uniform or listed as attending a certain school will only be shown with consent from the child's parent or carer.

Support safety:

Images that are shared publicly can be misused therefore:

- Photographs will avoid a child full face and body where a child is dressed or performing in way that could lead to a heightened risk of that image being misused.
- Children will only be photographed when appropriately dressed.

What we expect from others:

Children, young people, parents, and carers:

- children, young people parents and carers only photo or video people who they have consent to do so.
- photos and video are not shared on social media without consent.
- where photos and video are shared with consent appropriate privacy setting are enabled on that account
- that all attending **L J Dance Company** events comply with the **L J Dance Company** events and competitions code of conduct
- that all attending events recognise the importance of video and photo safety and that if they are asked by any staff member, contractor or volunteer associated with the **L J Dance Company** to stop filming they do so immediately as this is for the safety of another.

Teachers and private dance schools:

- must ensure all competitors and spectators attending events from their school understand the rules around photo and video consent.
- teachers and school principals must support the **L J Dance Company** to ensure compliance with this policy at **L J Dance Company** events.
- Teachers and school principals must role model good practice by taking photos in appropriate ways in appropriate areas and supporting good conversations around consent with their students.

Photographers and videographers:

(Those hired by L J Dance Company)

- must always wear ID.
- will be required to have in date DBS checks and safeguarding awareness training.
- must not be alone with children and young people.
- must respect verbal declined consent on the day and not photo anyone who asks not to be photographed.

(Those from external organisations such as the media)

- must contact the **L J Dance Company** before the event to share appropriate details on:
who they will be filming.
why they are collecting those images.

their details and credentials.

confirmation in writing about how the images will be used.

- **L J Dance Company** will only grant access if the details provided and the reason for attendance are legitimate and safe to the best of our knowledge.

Storage and transportation of images:

- If anything is used in the public domain it is out of our control if it is replicated in anyway.
- All content is kept securely on encrypted, password protected devices. This does include portable storage devices such as memory cards, external hard drives, and phones.
- Files are shared securely between **L J Dance Company** staff members and contractors.

Policies and Procedure:

Any concerns can be raised directly with the **L J Dance Company** safeguarding consultant Leia Judd: theljdancecompany@gmail.com

Date of last review: 4th Feb 2024