



Inspire Dance Academy Safeguarding policy

Inspire Dance Academy

Safeguarding policies & procedures for performances

Inspire Dance Academy is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people. It recognises its responsibility to take all reasonable steps to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation.

Inspire Dance Academy acknowledges its duty to act appropriately to any allegations, reports or

suspensions of abuse. Paid staff and volunteers will endeavour to 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 teachers at Inspire Dance Academy recognise their duty of care under the Children and Young Persons Act 1963, the Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations

2014, the Children Act 1989 and 2004 and the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act

2000 (in Scotland Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003), Working Together to

Safeguard Children 2018.

Inspire Dance Academy believes that:

The welfare of the child is paramount;

All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse;

All suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to

swiftly and appropriately;

All members and employees of the organisation should be clear on how to respond

appropriately.

Inspire Dance Academy will ensure that:

All children will be treated equally and with respect and dignity;

the welfare of each child will always be put first.

A balanced relationship based on mutual trust will be built which empowers the

children to share in the decision-making process.

Enthusiastic and constructive feedback will be given rather than negative criticism;

bullying will not be accepted or condoned.

All adult members of the organisation provide a positive role model for dealing with

other people;

Action will be taken to stop any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour.

It will keep up-to-date with health & safety legislation.

It will keep informed of changes in legislation and policies for the protection of

children.

It will undertake relevant development, training & CPD.

It will hold a register of every child involved with the performance and chaperones will retain a

contact name and number close at hand in case of emergencies.

Inspire Dance Academy has safeguarding procedures which accompany this policy.

Inspire Dance Academy's dedicated Child Protection/Welfare/Safeguarding Officer, who is in

charge of ensuring that the safeguarding policy and procedures are adhered to is Laura Burrell. She can be contacted on 07788944239 should there be a concern the surrounding child protection or safeguarding of a child.

In implementing this child protection policy Inspire Dance Academy will:

Communicate to all workers/members their legal and moral responsibility to protect children and young people from harm, abuse and exploitation.

Communicate to all workers/members/volunteers/members their responsibility to

work to the standards that are detailed in our Safeguarding Children Policy and the need to work at all times towards maintaining high standards of practice in protection of children.

Ensure that all teachers/members/volunteers understand their duty to report concerns that

arise about a child or young person, or a worker's conduct towards a child/young person, to Inspire Dance Academy's named person for child protection.

Ensure that Inspire Dance Academy's named person for child protection understands her responsibility to refer any child protection concerns to the statutory child protection agencies (i.e. Police and/or Children's Social Care)

Ensure that any procedures relating to the conduct of workers/members are **implemented in a consistent and equitable manner.**

Facilitate opportunities for children and young people to express their ideas and views on a wide range of issues in connection with the service they are provided with and to have access to Inspire Dance Academy's Complaints Procedure.

This policy will be regularly monitored by the Executive Committee of the organisation and **will be subject to annual review**

Date agreed: 06.06.2026

Reporting Concerns

All staff and volunteers must report all concerns to the designated safeguarding lead at the **nearest available opportunity- Laura Burrell 07788944239.**

It is the responsibility of all staff and volunteers at Inspire Dance Academy to take steps to protect children to keep them safe from hazards and to take appropriate action in the event **or an accident.**

It is the responsibility of all staff and volunteers to take reasonable steps to protect children and young people from harm and abuse while in contact with our organisation and our staff and to report any incident of or suspicion of abuse to the Designated Safeguarding Person or

In their absence to the appropriate statutory authority SPA- 02085475008 Mon-Fri 8.00-5.15 or out of hours 02087705000.

All staff working at Inspire Dance Academy who have contact with children and young people

are required to hold a valid, clear, enhanced DBS check.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people means:

Protecting children from maltreatment, preventing impairment of a child's health or development, ensuring that children are growing up with the provision of safe and effective care and taking action to ensure that children have the best life chances.

At Inspire Dance Academy we will do this by-

Identifying and responding to concerns about a child or young person.

Providing a safe and happy dance environment.

Supporting development through dance in a way that fosters a sense of belonging /

sense of self/ sense of community/ sense of independence.

Supporting young people to communicate freely with us, supporting their

communication methods. providing time and space to talk.

Fostering an environment of trust and building appropriate professional

relationships.

Consent and information sharing-

Issues of consent are essential to effective safeguarding practice.

Basic consents for day to day activities will be sought through enrolment process via registration forms.

Additional consent must be sought for an activity that is out of the usual parameters of our work-

Permission forms to be included in our showtime.

Permission to be photographed at Inspire Dance Academy.

Permission for sharing of photographs for promotional use.

Permission to be filmed as part of our showtime performance.

Appropriate organisational guidance shall be provided to ensure those consenting have clear and transparent information on what they are consenting to.

Significant harm is no exception to this. Before making a referral to Children's Social Care parents or carers must be informed that you are doing so, including the reasons why and must be asked for consent to do this. It should be noted however that in cases where parents, carers or children do not agree to information being shared you are still able to refer

to Children's Social Care without consent but it is important to explain clearly to social care why consent cannot be established and to make a record of this.

Instances where you may not wish to seek consent are where:

Discussion with parents/ carers could place the child or other members of their **family at increased risk**

The child is in immediate danger (e.g. requires medical attention)

Having the discussion with parents may put you or another member of staff at risk.

It is often necessary to share information to provide support and prevent impairment or to protect a child from harm. Decisions to share will be appropriate, necessary and proportionate. You must record your decision and the reasons for it, whether or not you choose to share information. If you decide to share you should record what you shared and **who you shared with.**

Child protection:

Is part of safeguarding children and promoting welfare. It refers to activity that is undertaken

to protect specific children who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.

This is about abuse and maltreatment of a child. Someone may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them, or by others (for example over the internet.) They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child/ children.

Abuse may be physical, emotional, sexual, neglectful or multiple types of abuse. Please see **appendix A for definitions of types of abuse.**

All staff and volunteers should be able to recognise, and know how to act upon evidence that

a child's health or development is being impaired or that the child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. All concern about harm must be recorded and shared with the Designated safeguarding lead.

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