Safeguarding Policy:updated August 2023

Gymnastica 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. PSDG acknowledges its duty to act appropriately to any allegations, reports or suspicions of abuse.

All 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.

PSDG recognises its duty of care under the Children and Young Persons Act 1963, the Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014, the Children Act 1989 and the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (in Scotland Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003). Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013.

Gymnastica believes that:

* We have a responsibility to safeguard the welfare of the children we teach and to ensure that appropriate policies and procedures are in place so that a child may take part in classes and shows within a safe and secure environment.
* 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 PSDG should be clear on how to respond appropriately.

Gymnastica will ensure that:

1. We provide an environment in which children are safe, can learn and develop at their own pace and are aware that there are always adults in whom they can trust.
2. All children will be treated equally and with respect and dignity.
3. The welfare of each child will always be put first.
4. Enthusiastic and constructive feedback will be given rather than negative criticism.
5. Bullying will not be accepted or condoned.
6. All staff/volunteers provide a positive role model for dealing with other people.
7. Action will be taken to stop any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour.
8. It will work with the venues we hire to provide a safe and secure environment.
9. It will endeavour to keep up to date with changes in legislation and policies for the protection of children and health and safety.
10. Gymnastics will hold a register of every child involved with the school and will retain a contact name and number close at hand in case of emergencies.

This policy should also be read in conjunction with our Equal Opportunities Policy

The school has dedicated Safeguarding /Welfare Officers, who is in charge of ensuring that the child protection policy and procedures are being adhered to.

In implementing this child protection policy Gymnastica will:

1. Communicate to all staff/volunteers their legal and moral responsibility to protect children and young people from harm, abuse and exploitation.
2. Communicate to all staff/volunteers their responsibility to work to the standards that are detailed herein and the need to work at all times towards maintaining high standards of practice in protection of children.
3. Ensure that all staff/volunteers understand their duty to report concerns that arise about a child or young person, or any staff/volunteers conduct towards a child/young person, to the school’s named person for child protection.
4. Ensure that the school’s named person for child protection understands his/her responsibility to refer any child protection concerns to the statutory child protection agencies (i.e. Police and/or Children’s Social Care).
5. Ensure that any procedures relating to the conduct of staff/volunteers are implemented in a consistent and equitable manner.
6. Ensure the children/young people and their parents or carers have access to and can comment upon this child protection policy and its procedures.

This policy will be regularly monitored by the Welfare Officers of the school and will be subject to annual review.

safeguarding officers Notice ….

All safeguarding officers have incident forms and will have them on them at all times any information on the incident forms will be handed over to Miss Emily Parker only, if it is about Miss Emily the safeguarding officer will speak to the Welfare officers only and will take action in speaking to our Governing Bodies The International Dance Teachers Association and The British Gymnastics Association or the Police.

Miss Emily is Lead Safeguarding Officer.

Online Safety Policy  
Regarding online resources during the Coronavirus situation  
Updated: March 2023

We have a duty of care to ensure our pupils can continue their development and training online in a safe and secure manner.  
It is our belief that all pupils and their families should feel included in our online sessions and that we must work together to ensure that our values and the safety of our pupils are upheld at all times.

To allow as many pupils to continue to enjoy Gymnastica as possible during these unprecedented times, we have implemented the following online platforms:

There is a Gymnastica private Facebook page for the whole school for updates, information and activities appropriate to all.

Zoom: Invitations with details on how to access the classes will only be sent out to enrolled students. Each child must be supervised by a parent under the age 16. Each Zoom class is age appropriate.

(The use of Social Media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram as well as our Website and Gmail email system continue to be used as normal.) All photos have had prior permission.

All Parents are invited to join in the Private Facebook Page only.