

Health and Safety Policy for Freedom Academy of Performing Arts

Date – 11/12/2024

Renewal Date: 11/12/2025

Introduction

At Freedom Academy of Performing Arts, we are dedicated to providing a safe and conducive environment for our students, staff, and visitors. This Health and Safety Policy outlines our commitment to ensuring safety and compliance with UK health and safety regulations, thereby fostering an atmosphere where creativity and learning can flourish. Our aim is to prevent accidents, avoid injuries, and promote the wellbeing of all individuals involved in our academy's activities.

Objectives

The primary objectives of this Health and Safety Policy are to:

1. Promote a culture of safety awareness throughout the academy.
2. Identify, assess, and manage risks associated with our performing arts classes and activities.
3. Provide adequate training and resources to staff and students regarding health and safety practices.
4. Establish effective communication channels for reporting health and safety concerns.

Responsibilities

Management Responsibilities

- Ensure compliance with all relevant health and safety legislation.
- Conduct regular risk assessments of the academy's premises and activities.
- Implement control measures to mitigate identified risks.
- Provide ongoing training and resources for staff regarding health and safety procedures.
- Maintain a clear procedure for reporting and investigating accidents and incidents.

Staff Responsibilities

- Adhere to the health and safety policies and procedures established by the academy.
- Participate in training and development opportunities related to health and safety.
- Report any hazards, incidents, or near misses to management immediately.
- Promote a safe environment for students by demonstrating safe practices during classes.

Student Responsibilities

- Follow instructions and guidelines provided by staff regarding health and safety.
- Wear appropriate clothing and footwear for performing arts activities.
- Inform staff of any pre-existing medical conditions that may affect participation in classes.
- Report any hazards or unsafe conditions to staff promptly.

Risk Assessment

Regular risk assessments will be conducted to identify potential hazards associated with our classes and activities. The following steps will be taken:

1. **Identification of Hazards:** Regular inspections of the premises and equipment used in classes.
2. **Assessment of Risks:** Evaluating the likelihood and potential impact of identified hazards.
3. **Control Measures:** Implementing practical measures to eliminate or reduce risks (e.g., safe storage of props, use of non-slip flooring).
4. **Review and Update:** Periodically reviewing risk assessments to ensure ongoing safety.

Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency, the following protocols will be implemented:

1. **Fire Safety:** Regular fire drills will be conducted, and clear evacuation routes will be displayed throughout the premises. Staff will be trained on fire safety procedures, including the use of fire extinguishers.
2. **First Aid:** Trained first-aiders will be available on-site during classes. A first aid kit will be accessible, and staff will be aware of procedures for dealing with injuries and emergencies.
3. **Reporting Incidents:** Any accidents, incidents, or near misses must be reported to management within 24 hours. An incident report will be filed, and appropriate follow-up actions will be taken.

Health and Wellbeing

Freedom Academy of Performing Arts promotes the health and wellbeing of our students and staff:

- **Mental Health:** Resources and support will be made available to address mental health concerns. Staff will undergo training to identify signs of distress and know how to support students effectively.
- **Physical Wellbeing:** Students will be encouraged to engage in warm-up and cool-down routines to prevent injuries. Suitable facilities for hydration and breaks will be provided during classes.

Conclusion

Freedom Academy of Performing Arts is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all its members. Through cooperation, regular training, and adherence to this Health and Safety Policy, we can provide an enriching experience for our students while ensuring their safety and wellbeing. We invite input and feedback from all students, staff, and parents to help facilitate continuous improvement in our health and safety practices.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if there are changes to legislation, operational procedures, or after an incident. The review will be conducted by management in conjunction with input from staff and students to ensure it remains relevant and effective.