

Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Policy:

Elevate Dance & Events is dedicated to creating safe environments for children and young people. We strongly condemn any kind of child abuse and believe that it is our responsibility to ensure the welfare of all children and young people. We are committed to applying best practices to protect them. This policy applies to all members of Elevate Dance & Events.

We Recognise:

The well-being of children and young people is of utmost importance. Every child has the right to equal protection from any kind of harm or abuse, regardless of their age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation, or identity. To promote a young person's welfare, it is crucial to work in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies.

Policy Purpose:

The primary goal of Elevate Dance & Events is to ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people who participate in our dance classes and events. We aim to provide our staff and volunteers with clear and concise guidelines on how to handle situations where they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm. Our main concern is to provide protection for our young participants and to ensure they have a safe and enjoyable experience with us.

Safeguarding Children and Young People:

- Valuing, listening to, and respecting them. This can be achieved by adopting child protection guidelines and implementing safe working practices for all staff and volunteers. It is also crucial to recruit staff and volunteers safely by conducting all necessary checks.
- Sharing information about child protection and safe working practices with children, parents, staff, and volunteers is important. Any concerns regarding child protection should be shared with appropriate agencies, and parents and children should be involved appropriately.
- Effective management is key to ensuring the safety of children. Staff and volunteers should receive supervision, support, and training to help them perform their duties effectively.

Elevate Dance & Events will review this policy on a yearly basis in accordance with the Safe Network guidance. Any changes in legislation or guidance will be taken into account

before the review. The school is committed to taking all suspicions and allegations of abuse seriously and will respond to them swiftly and appropriately. All staff and volunteers of the school have a responsibility to report any concerns they may have.

The Purpose and Function of Elevate Dance & Events:

The aim of Elevate Dance & Events is to introduce children and adults to the world of dance, where everyone will learn and develop within their chosen genre of jazz, street, adult's dance exercise or relax & stretch. Our classes are designed to improve physical coordination, technical skills, strength, and flexibility by responding to music. Each class is well-structured and disciplined, yet still fun and friendly. Our goal is to provide every individual with the opportunity to enjoy learning and exercising in class.

School Environment:

Elevate Dance & Events aims to create a safe and nurturing environment for children and young adults to learn and grow at their own pace. Our priority is the welfare of every student, and we treat all children equally with respect and dignity. We offer enthusiastic and constructive feedback instead of negative criticism in all classes. We have a zero-tolerance policy towards bullying, and any staff/volunteers will provide positive role models for interacting with others. Any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour will not be tolerated, and necessary actions will be taken to stop it.

We work with our venue ensure a safe and secure environment for all. We are committed to staying up-to-date with changes in legislation and policies that protect children and promote health and safety. At every class, we keep a register of all children involved with the school, along with a contact name and emergency phone number, in case of any unforeseen circumstances. However, please note that we do not take responsibility for the supervision of unaccompanied minors or vulnerable adults outside of class times.

Venue:

All children's classes are held at The John Jeffery Community Pavilion, Wigginton Playing Fields, Mill Ln, York YO32 2PY.

When collecting children, parents or guardians must inform the class teacher if collection arrangements change. Children will only be dismissed to a known and appropriate adult. We kindly request that you assist each other in accessing the building if you see an adult or child waiting to come in for their class. If there is no one available to let you in, please contact the company director, Rhian, on 07455991664. Please do not use a doorstep to wedge the front door open. It is important that we know who is accessing the building at all times. Emergency First Aid kits are available for use and are kept in the Treatment Room.

Running Safe Classes and Events:

Arrangements are in place to ensure that the physical risks associated with the activities undertaken by children and young people at Liberty School of Dance are identified and managed. In order for dance technique to be taught safely and correctly, there will at times be the need for physical contact to be made to ensure the correct teaching of a specific step or technique. An example of this would be to correct postural alignment which relates to safe practice.

Application of Policy:

This policy concerns children below 18 years of age and members of vulnerable groups, of any age, whose requirements are brought to the attention of Elevate Dance & Events. To do so, please contact the school's email address or phone number. The school acknowledges the needs of children with disabilities and from ethnic groups and actively endeavours to meet them. However, in order to provide support, the school must be informed beforehand by parents/guardians/carers and/or teachers. If the school is unable to provide assistance, we'll let you know.

School Personnel:

Rhian Hull, the company director and only current teacher holds a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and, in the case of a problem, is able to provide support as required. (Parents can advise their child that Rhian can be approached privately and discreetly). Any concerns/conversations will be taken seriously and will be documented and dated at the time of disclosure. Any disclosures will be shared with an appropriate third party.

Legislation Supporting This Policy:

The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974; The Children Act 1989; The Police Act 1997; The Data Protection Act 1998; The Human Rights Act 1998; The Protection of Children Act 1999; The Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000, The Children Act 2004. The Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.

School Contact:

Company Director: Rhian Hull

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