

# Child Safeguarding Policy



DNC Studio, 459 Bath Road, Slough, SL1 6AA

## 1. Introduction

At DNC Studio Ltd., we are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all children participating in our dance and yoga programs. This Child Safeguarding Policy outlines our dedication to the protection of children and the prevention of abuse. We believe that children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind and we are dedicated to fulfilling our responsibility in promoting the welfare of all children and young people, keep them safe and practice in a way that protects them.

## 2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- a. Ensure the safety and well-being of all children attending our studio.
- b. Prevent abuse, harassment, or any form of harm to children.
- c. Promote awareness and education regarding child safeguarding among our staff, instructors, contractors, and volunteers.
- d. Provide clear reporting procedures in the event of any safeguarding concerns and act in the best interest of the child.

## 3. Scope

This policy applies to all staff members, instructors, contractors, volunteers, and anyone associated with DNC Studio Ltd. who may come into contact with children who attend studio activities and events or children of adult learners who visit our studio.

## 4. Principles

4.1. **Best Interests of the Child:** We always prioritize the best interests of the child in all decisions and actions related to our studio.

4.2. **Non-Discrimination:** We do not tolerate discrimination, bullying, or harassment of any child on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic.

4.3. **Respect for Privacy:** We respect the privacy and confidentiality of children and their families, especially when reporting and addressing safeguarding concerns.

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## 5. Procedures

**5.1. Recruitment and Training:** We ensure that all staff, instructors, contractors, and volunteers undergo background checks and receive training on child safeguarding and recognizing signs of abuse. We are committed in providing effective management for all staff, instructors, contractors and volunteers through supervision, support, training, and quality assurance measures so that all contractors and volunteers know about and follow our policies, procedures and behaviour codes confidently and competently.

**5.2. Code of Conduct:** We have a clear code of conduct that outlines expected behaviour when interacting with children. This includes appropriate physical contact and communication guidelines.

**5.3. Reporting Procedures:** Any suspicion or evidence of child abuse or safeguarding concerns must be reported immediately to the designated Child Safeguarding Officer (CSO) who is responsible for ensuring that reports are appropriately addressed and that authorities are contacted if necessary.

**5.4. Internal Investigations:** We established procedures to manage any allegations against staff, instructors, contractors, and volunteers appropriately, through internal investigations.

**5.5. Support for Children:** We provide a safe space for children to express their concerns or report any incidents, by valuing, listening to, and respecting them. We also offer support and resources for children who may have experienced abuse, by making sure that children, young people, and their families know where to go for help if they have a concern.

**5.6. Whistleblowing:** We are ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place and any concerns will be dealt with confidentiality and anonymity, while resolutions will be fair and conclusive.

**5.7. Data Protection:** We are recording, storing, and using information professionally and securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.

**5.8. Response and Resolution:** We have established procedures for investigating and resolving safeguarding concerns, including cooperation with relevant authorities and agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families, and carers appropriately.

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## 6. Communication

We communicate our Child Safeguarding Policy to all staff, instructors, contractors, volunteers, parents, and children involved with our studio. We share information about safeguarding awareness and good practice with children and their families via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions. This policy is readily accessible on our website and in our studio premises.

## 7. Monitoring and Review

We regularly review and update this policy to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with current legal requirements and best practices.

## 8. Conclusion

At DNC Studio Ltd. we are dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing environment where children can explore their love for dance and yoga without fear of harm. We are committed to upholding this Child Safeguarding Policy and ensuring that it is embedded in our studio culture.

## Contact details:

### **Nominated child protection lead.**

Name: Nikita Thakrar

Phone/email: 07539 689 147 - admin@dncstudio.com

### **NSPCC Helpline**

0808 800 5000

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

This policy was last reviewed on: 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Nikita Thakrar

Signature

Date: