



Child Protection Policy

MACS Dance recognise the safety of its students to be of vital importance and everyone who comes into contact with children has a role to play in keeping children safe. Everyone should always consider what is in the best interest of the child. MACS Dance adheres to the Code of Conduct for Professional Practice by the Royal Academy of Dance. The additional measures in this Child Protection Policy should also be adhered to. MACS Dance acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice of the Royal Academy of Dance requirements.

The welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances and this policy aims to ensure that regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or socioeconomic background, all children:

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of dance at MACS Dance in a safe and child centred environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in dance or outside of the activity

MACS Dance acknowledges that some children, including disabled children and young people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy MACS Dance will:

- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- Ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify, and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- Ensure that confidential, detailed, and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- Prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be mandatory for everyone involved in MACS Dance. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

The policy will be reviewed every three years or when changes in legislation and/or new government guidance comes into effect.