

# **SAFEGUARDING POLICY AT ELIZABETH BOARDMAN DANCE (THIS INCLUDES ELIZABETH BOARDMAN SCHOOL OF DANCE AND ELIZABETH BOARDMAN DANCE COMPANY).**

Elizabeth Boardman Dance, which includes Elizabeth Boardman School of Dance and Elizabeth Boardman Dance Company (hereafter referred to as EB Dance) IS BASED AT Unit 3-4 Alpha Park, Mallard Road, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8AF.

EB Dance has adopted this safeguarding children policy and expects every adult or helper working or helping at EB Dance to comply with it and support it.

## Purpose of the Policy.

This policy is intended to protect children and young people attending classes in dance/performing arts with us, or performing on other occasions organised by us, for example in shows or other performances or taking part in competitions etc.

We believe that no child or young person should experience abuse or harm and are committed to the protection of children and young people. This policy is intended to provide guidance to those who represent us as volunteers or staff, and set out the principles under which we operate with regard to child protection and safeguarding.

## The Risks to Children.

EB Dance does not wish to exaggerate or overestimate dangers, but there are situations where children need to be protected, including sexual abuse, grooming, physical and emotional abuse and neglect, domestic violence, inappropriate supervision by staff or volunteers, bullying, cyber bullying, acts of violence or aggression, victimisation, self-harm, unsafe environments or activities, crime or exploitation. This policy covers any incidents which may happen during the classes/events or where we become aware that incidents have happened outside the classes/events, for example physical signs of violence or physical abuse, which we feel should be reported to the relevant authorities.

## Safeguarding Children at EB Dance Classes and Events.

At classes at EB Dance, children under 17 must be brought to the class by their parent/guardian, who must also be present after the class to take the child home afterwards. Young people aged 17 may attend unaccompanied. Although we already hold emergency contact details for students' parents/guardians as given to us on the parent portal account, it is extremely important to notify us if these change. Information on the parent portal account is kept securely and not passed on to third parties except where this may be required by law, for example to Local Authorities to comply with BOPA regulations (Body of Persons Approval – for child safeguarding where children are performing, such as in shows and competitions).

Likewise, at other events organised by/ attended by us, although in most cases parents/guardians will be present, the child must be signed in with us at the event to cover the period while actually performing and then signed out again into a parent's/guardian's care. A risk assessment will be carried out for these events and steps taken to minimise risks if necessary. EB Dance will keep records of all such risk assessments.

## Photographing Children.

From time to time photographs and videos will be taken for publicity e.g. our website, official Facebook page, official Instagram, video recording of our school show or newspaper photos etc.

By attending classes and rehearsals with Elizabeth Boardman Dance the parent/guardian/dancer (if 17 or over) agrees for the student to be a part of these photographs & video recordings. Please let us know if you would prefer first names not to be mentioned in publicity as stated above. The students names will be listed at the end of the showcase video recording unless parents have specifically requested it not to be. When Parents sign up for Class for Kids they are notified that photos may be taken.

## Managing behaviour, discipline and acceptable restraint.

The class teacher or other adults supervising children must never use any form of corporal punishment. If physical restraint is absolutely necessary to prevent injury to any person or to prevent serious damage to property, the minimum necessary restraint may be used for that purpose only. If a parent/guardian is present in the waiting area, that person will be asked to impose discipline before EB Dance staff use restraint, except in the most extreme and urgent cases. In such circumstances, EB Dance reserve the right to ban a child or parent from attending any further classes, as the safety of other children must be considered.

## Bullying.

Bullying will not be tolerated in any form. If we become aware that it is happening, the children involved will be separated and parents/ guardians informed. In extreme cases, we reserve the right to ban a child, as above. This includes physical and emotional bullying.

## Physical Contact with Children.

Time to time some physical contact may be required for teaching purposes for example correction of body alignment for dance technique. This is always minimal and the child will be aware if they need help. For example if demonstration by the teacher does not clarify for the child what is required, sometimes it may be necessary for the teacher to adjust for example an arm position by touching a student's arm. The minimum contact needed will always be used. Sometimes if a child is upset they may run to Miss Elizabeth for a hug this is of course unpredictable and unavoidable in some circumstances. Parents will always be notified if a child did become upset. We do also have 2 CCTV cameras in the studio.

## Legal Framework.

This policy has been drawn up in accordance with the following:-

Children Act 1989

United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991

General Data Protection Regulation

Human Rights Act 1998

Sexual Offences Act 2003

Children Act 2004

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

Protection of Freedoms Act 2012

Children and Families Act 2014

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) code of practice – Guidance on the special educational needs and disability (SEND) system for children and young people aged 0 to 25 from 1 September 2014

Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services

Working together to safeguard children (2017)

This policy was approved by the following officer in January 2026 and is due for review every year.

ELIZABETH BOARDMAN, PRINCIPAL, EBDANCE—Child Safeguarding Lead