

# Child Protection Policy

Pickup Dance Southampton (PDS) identifies the need and function for a policy to be in place to ensure the correct procedures are always carried out for the safety of teachers and students of the school.

The dance school has a duty of care to safeguard all children involved from harm. All children have the right to protection and the needs of disabled children and vulnerable children must be taken into account. The dance school will ensure the safety and protection of all children through adherence to the Child Protection guidelines. A child is defined under 18 in The Children Act 1989.

The UK's four nations – England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales – have their own child protection system and laws to help protect children from abuse and neglect. Each nation has a framework of legislation, guidance, and practice to identify children who are at risk of harm and to take action to protect those children and prevent further abuse occurring.

We are all responsible for reporting concerns about a child's welfare. If a child is in immediate danger then call the police on 999, NSPCC also have a hotline you can call on 0808 800 5000.

Over 49,000 children in England were identified as needing protection from abuse last year.

Bryony Pickup is the child protection officer for PDS and can be contacted on the school's email [pickupdance2014@gmail.com](mailto:pickupdance2014@gmail.com) or through her private email [bryony-pickup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bryony-pickup@hotmail.co.uk)

If you would like to elevate your concern further, you can call Southampton County Council on 023 8083 3336

# Child Protection Policy

## **Pickup Dance Southampton's Policy:**

- Every child has the right to be safe**
- Always ensure the safety of children while at the dance school**
- Staff will refer concerns that are happening outside of the dance school**
- Premises will be cleaned regularly to prevent hazard to health from any accumulated dirt or rubbish**
- All instruction will be tailored towards the previous experience of the pupil and no students will be asked to attempt something that is beyond their capabilities**
- All classes will start with an appropriate warm up and finish with a cool down**
- Smoking is not permitted on or around the dance premises**
- An accident record will be kept of any incident that has resulted in injury to the pupil or to anyone else**
- Young pupils will not be allowed to leave the premises until they are collected by a parent or guardian unless previous consent has been given**
- Have up to date insurance and DBS checks for all staff members**
- School principle will ensure that all members of staff hold the correct insurance policies**
- The chewing of gum is not allowed within class**
- Teachers may ask students to remove jewellery if it is deemed a hazard**
- Make sure all suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately**
- Staff will take signs of bullying within classes very seriously**
- We encourage all to speak and share concerns**
- It is also important to speak out against any offensive or inappropriate comments**
- It is everyone's role to re-educate any offensive notions someone might have**
- Students will need to be informed that any details they share with us cannot be kept secret**
- Keep records of important conversations about concerns and safety**
- The school remains the right to expel any student who persistently disrupts tuition, uses offensive language or any other anti-social behaviour**

**PDS has a child protection policy to ensure the highest standard of care and tuition for its students. In writing the policy we used STOPCHECK and NSCPP guidance as well as GOV.co.uk. The procedures we follow are laid down within these guidelines.**

**Policy updated on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020 // Bryony Pickup**