

https://www.instagram.com/victoriawalker_danceschool/Child Safeguarding Statement



1. **Name of service being provided:** Dance and Performance Tuition in Ballet, Tap, Modern, Jazz, Musical Theatre, Hip Hop, Zumba

2. **Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm**

Safeguarding is the number priority at the school and we strive to ensure every child can learn to dance in a positive, supportive and safe environment. We constantly attend course, read and study current papers on dance and child psychology as well as attend regular courses to ensure our teaching methods are in line with safe practice.



3. **Risk Assessment**

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage identified risk
1	Dance Injury/Falls	<p>Working on a good dance floor and inspecting floors for hazards before classes commence.</p> <p>No leaking water bottles.</p> <p>Pupils to bring towels for sweat.</p> <p>Correct footwear or bare feet to prevent falls.</p> <p>Professional teachers teaching best practice.</p> <p>All teachers first aid training up to date</p>
2	Moving Portable Barres	Ensure 2 people always carry the barres
3	Trapping Fingers in door	Ensure young children are lined up and supervised and the door is securely propped open in-between classes. We ask those collecting not to open the door and to wait for the teacher or assistant to open it
4	Collisions with barres/other pupils	<p>No swinging on the barres</p> <p>Teach how to dance in your own space</p> <p>Use of crosses/stickers for younger children</p>
5	Leaving the studio without an authorised person/Older pupils leaving themselves.	<p>Parent's are kindly asked to collect children on time and teacher's to open the studio door on time. Realistically people run late with traffic etc or teachers with explanations so in this case children remain inside the studio or parents are advised if running over.</p> <p>Parent's must now fill in consent forms for anyone collecting their child and let us know at all time's should something arise otherwise the child in question will have to wait inside the studio and we will reassure the child involved. Older pupils leaving on their own must get parent's to sign a consent form.</p>

6	Personal Injury	Thorough warm up and cool downs as well as constant supervision. If a child is late it is paramount that they warm up rather than jump straight into the part of the class/rehearsal they arrive to.
7	Locking self in toilet	We ask that all pupils go before and after class but sometimes children need to go if so youngest children are assisted by teacher, assistant or volunteer (gardai vetted) Advised to leave door ajar Door can be opened from the outside

4. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)*, and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service;
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children;
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla;
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons;
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on _____, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: _____ (Provider)
[Provider's name and contact details]

For queries, please contact _____, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.

