

Thomas Page Dances Safeguarding Policy

Introduction

The aim of Thomas Page Dances (TPD) with regards to its youth and community education is to create a provision of contemporary dance to children/adults of all abilities, backgrounds, and identities. We want to provide an all-inclusive service offering a safe space for all. We will use industry professionals to deliver quality teaching resulting in a range of classes, workshops, and training. We encourage, maintain and develop high standards with a equal focus on enjoyment and creating welcoming safe spaces.

Contact Information

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Policy Statement

Thomas Page Dances acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities and government guidance. We are committed to practice which protects children from harm. Information contained in this document will help to create an understanding and direction for members, friends, parents/guardians, children and young people involved with TPD .

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children (and vulnerable adults) are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or socio- economic background, all children have a positive and enjoyable experience in our spaces.

To Whom This Policy Applies

This Policy relates to anyone under the age of 18, and to those vulnerable persons of any age who are identified to the Child Protection Officer. It will be read, understood and agreed by all members of Thomas Page Dances and all persons involved in our youth work such as guest teachers.

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Risks to Children and Young People

The situations in which children will need protections include, but are not limited to:

- Sexual abuse
- Grooming
- Physical and emotional abuse or neglect
- Domestic violence
- Neglect
- Inappropriate supervision by staff and volunteers
- Bullying
- Victimisation
- Self-harm
- Unsafe environments and activities
- Crime
- Exploitation

As part of our safeguarding policy we will:

- Promote and prioritise the safety and well-being 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 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
- Ensure all children and young people will be treated with respect and dignity
- Ensure appropriate risk assessments are carried out and developed for our activities

Anti-discrimination

TPD prohibits any discrimination on the basis of race, creed, colour, religion, national origin, ancestry, marital status, familial status, parental status or pregnancy status, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, height, weight, disability, citizenship status, veteran status, HIV antibody status, or any other factor irrelevant to their enrolment, status or function. Should discrimination occur at any scale the occurrence must be reported to TPD and the appropriate action will be taken.

We will seek to keep the children and young people we work with safe by:

- Valuing, listening to and respecting them
- Ensuring that there is a nominated child protection lead for children and young people.
- Ensuring all staff across the organisation are appropriately trained
- Adopting safeguarding best practice through our and external policies, procedures and codes of conduct - including our membership resources from People Dancing Foundation and One Dance UK
- Recruiting and selecting staff safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Recording, storing and using information professionally and securely, in line with GDPR legislation and guidance
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know
- Using our procedure to manage any allegations appropriately
- Creating and maintaining a culture of appropriate and positive behaviour, treating each other with respect and ensuring everyone is comfortable about sharing concerns

Monitoring

The policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- Changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- As required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board
- As a result of any other significant change or event.

Last Reviewed: February 2022

The Legislation and Guidance that supports this policy:

The Children Act 1989, The Police Act 1997, The Data Protection Act 1998, The Human Rights Act 1998, The Protection of Children Act 1999 and the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000, One Dance UK Safeguarding Policy, 2020.

Thomas Page fulfils the role of Thomas Page Dances Child Protection Officer, who is in charge of ensuring that the policy is adhered to. This is also the person to whom you must report any allegations of abuse. This person is also required to keep records of such instances. This person can be contacted on 07975502911 or thomas@thomaspagedances.com