

Apollo Dance

Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy

Our policy is to provide our students with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of Apollo Dance.

All teachers, and licensed chaperones will provide a happy and safe environment where children can wait in their changing rooms, get changed and ready to perform.

We are committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people up to the age of 18 and understand our responsibility to take all reasonable steps to report any allegations or suspicions of abuse to the appropriate authorities.

Zoë Darby, Safeguarding Lead, has passed a Level 3 Safeguarding Children course which was taken on June 26th 2022.

We acknowledge our duty of care and will adhere to the following legislations:

- Children Act 1989
- Children Act 2004
- Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations 2004
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

Apollo Dance believes that:

- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people that we teach, to keep them safe and to practice in a way that protects them.
- All children and young people, regardless of their age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief, or sexual orientation will have equal priority to be kept safe whilst in our care.
- All suspicions and allegations are responded to immediately and are taken seriously.

Apollo Dance recognises that:

- Sharing photographs and films of our activities can help us celebrate the successes and achievements of our children and young people.
- Children, their parents/ guardians have a right to decide whether their images are taken and how they may be used.
- With our show being recorded and photographed, all parents have given consent for this to take place.
- There are potential risks associated with sharing images of children online.

Apollo Dance will ensure that:

- All children and young people are listened to and respected.
- We provide dance classes where children and young people can learn and develop at their own pace.

- All teachers/staff understand their duty to report concerns that arise about a child or young person.
- All teachers will provide a positive environment, with constructive and enthusiastic feedback.
- Bullying is not accepted.
- All actions will be taken to stop any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour.
- We keep up to date with any changes in legislations that we adhere to (as listed above).
- Our studio is a safe and secure place.
- The Apollo Studio is a safe and secure place, and the students will never be left alone – always accompanied by a licensed chaperone/teacher.
- Written consent from a child's parent/guardian are given before taking and using an image with their child in it.
- We hold a register in each class, of every child involved in Apollo Dance, and will retain an Emergency Contact (paper form).
- We hold a register in each changing room/studio of every child involved in the classes, with the relevant Emergency contacts, allergies and any other information needed.

All students under secondary school age will be unable to leave the studio without an adult (18+) present. All students over secondary school age will require written permission from their parent/guardian to leave the studio without an adult (18+) present.

Apollo Dance has these steps in place if anti-social behaviour occurs outside the studio (on Wherry's Lane).

- If anti-social behaviour is non threatening and is not directly in front of the studio caution will be taken letting students out of the studio. Parents will have to come in front of the door to collect their child.
- If anti-social behaviour is non threatening but is directly in front of the studio parents will come into the studio to collect their child.
- If anti-social behaviour is deemed by the teacher to be threatening but not an emergency. Ie banging on doors, blocking entry ways, shouting, swearing but no weapons. Then the non-emergency police line 101 will be called. Parents will come into the studio to pick their child up.
- If anti-social behaviour is deemed threatening ie with weapons the bottom lock will be bolted on the studio door and the emergency police number 999 will be called. No students will exit the building until the threat has cleared.

For student safety the front door (has two locks) will always be locked with one lock whilst classes are taking place. The fire exit will be locked from the outside but always unlocked from the inside.

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Zoe Darby, 07718088525 info@apollodance.co.uk

This Policy (V1.0) was updated by the Principal, Zoë Darby and Owner of Apollo Dance on 2/9/24.