



Starlight Dance Studios

Safeguarding Policy

PURPOSE

Starlight Dance Studios is committed to creating a safe, nurturing, and inclusive environment where every child, young person, and vulnerable adult feels protected, respected, and empowered to thrive. This policy outlines our safeguarding principles, procedures, and responsibilities to ensure the wellbeing of all individuals in our care.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, contractors, students, parents/guardians, and visitors across all Starlight Dance Studios locations and events.

OUR COMMITMENT

We believe safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We are committed to:

- Promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults
- Preventing harm, abuse, and neglect
- Responding swiftly and appropriately to concerns
- Creating a culture of openness, trust, and accountability

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS (DSLs)

<u>Role</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Principle and Main Safeguarding lead	Sharon Weatherilt	07899617815
Deputy Safeguarding lead	Daisy Dunlop	07708177092
Deputy Safeguarding lead	Andrew Weatherilt	07792875539

All safeguarding concerns should be reported directly to the DSL or Deputy DSLs.

TYPES OF ABUSE WE SAFEGUARD AGAINST

We are vigilant in recognising and responding to:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Bullying (including cyberbullying)
- Discriminatory abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Online safety risks
- Radicalisation and extremism

SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES

1. Recruitment & Vetting

- All staff and volunteers undergo enhanced DBS checks
- References and safeguarding declarations are required
- Safeguarding responsibilities are outlined in contracts and role descriptions

2. Training

- All staff receive annual safeguarding training
- DSLs receive advanced safeguarding and child protection training
- Safeguarding is included in staff induction

3. Reporting Concerns

- Concerns must be reported immediately to the DSL
- Reports are logged securely and confidentially
- We follow local safeguarding partnership protocols and escalate where necessary

4. Responding to Disclosures

- We listen calmly and without judgment
- We do not promise confidentiality



- We record facts accurately and report to the DSL

5. Online Safety

- We promote safe digital behaviour
- We monitor online platforms used for studio communication
- We educate students and families about online risks

6. Physical Contact & Boundaries

- All physical contact is age-appropriate, consent-based, and professionally justified (e.g., correcting posture)
- Staff are trained to maintain clear boundaries and avoid one-to-one unsupervised situations

WORKING WITH PARENTS & GUARDIANS

We believe safeguarding works best in partnership. We:

- Communicate clearly and compassionately
- Share relevant safeguarding information when appropriate
- Encourage families to raise concerns and ask questions
- Provide access to safeguarding policies and resources

MONITORING & REVIEW

- This policy is reviewed annually or after any safeguarding incident
- Feedback from staff, students, and families is welcomed
- Safeguarding audits and drills are conducted termly

IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN

Please speak to a member of our safeguarding team or email starlight.ds@hotmail.com
You can also contact your local safeguarding partnership or NSPCC for advice.