



## **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY: 2025-2026 Academic Year**

This document will be read and understood by all staff members of Lizzie Rose Dance Teaching, including volunteers. Parents/carers/guardians of all students are welcome to read this document at any time.

### **Safeguarding the welfare of children and young people**

- Lizzie Rose Dance Teaching recognises the importance of treating children and young people with respect and ensures that everyone is treated equally.
- All staff members and volunteers within the team, accept that the welfare of the child is paramount.
- All staff members and volunteers will be checked and asked whether they have been subject to criminal or civil proceedings and whether they have caused harm to children or put them at risk. Relevant checks will be carried out prior to any work or involvement with Lizzie Rose Dance Teaching e.g. DBS, Chaperone License etc
- It is the obligation of all people working with children and young people to prevent abuse and unsafe situations from occurring. All team members are required to report any abuse that is disclosed, suspected or revealed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Lizzie).
- Lizzie Rose Dance teaching will fully co-operate with the appropriate authorities in any child protection incident.

### **Good Practice Guidelines**

- Lizzie Rose Dance Teaching will treat any child abuse issues with appropriate action and no team members will underestimate or exaggerate any situations.
- All staff members and volunteers must be conscious that words and actions may be open to misinterpretation and you should therefore take care to avoid situations in which your actions could be misunderstood.
- You should never be on your own with a child or young person in an unsupervised situation.
- You should never meet with a child or young person outside the organised activity without another worker being present or without parental consent e.g. planned group trips, change of location etc
- Lizzie Rose Dance Teaching will be responsible for ensuring that no bullying or harassment of any kind occurs.

- All steps will be taken to ensure that all work and practical areas are safe for children, young people and team members.
- All staff members and students, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse.
- Any allegation of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to quickly and appropriately.
- Allegations of any kind may come directly from a student, a team worker, or from an adult.
- Allegations may refer to a family member or to someone outside the family. No groups of people are exempt from being abusers or from being abused.

**Abuse falls into 4 main categories:**

- **Physical**
  - Any injury to a child or young person caused by a parent, friend, family member or any other person.
- **Neglect**
  - Neglect is the failure to meet a child or young person's basic needs such as food, warmth, protection, cleanliness and care.
- **Emotional abuse**
  - The persistent, severe emotional treatment or rejection that severely affects the person. This includes the emotional and/or behavioural development of a child or young individual.
- **Sexual abuse**
  - The use of a child or young person to meet an adult's or another child's sexual needs.

**Further Information:**

If a child or young individual starts to tell you either they or another child is/are being abused, it is vital that you do the following:

- DO NOT promise "not to tell anyone" or say that you will "keep it a secret". The child or young individual must be able to trust you.
- LISTEN vigilantly but please do not ask questions. QUALIFIED persons will be able to ask the appropriate questions.
- SUPPORT the child or young individual that they have done the right thing.
- REPORT the child or young individual's disclosure to Lizzie Rose Dance Teaching immediately.
- AS SOON AS POSSIBLE write down what you were told by the child or young individual. You must use THEIR their words to describe the abuse and pass this onto Lizzie Rose Dance Teaching straightaway.
- Any allegations of abuse reported to Lizzie Rose Dance Teaching will immediately be taken up with the relevant people and authorities. Be aware that the first person told of the abuse may be required to give a statement to the Police and/or the relevant organisation and/or authorities.
- Anything disclosed will remain in complete confidentiality and will only be shared appropriately.

Updated: 01/09/2025. Next Update Due: 01/01/2026