

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers and the board of trustees, paid staff, volunteers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of British Theatre Dance Association (BTDA.)

The purpose of this policy:

- to protect children and young people who receive BTDA's services. This includes the children of adults who use our services;
- to provide staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection;

BTDA believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We acknowledge the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and are committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and regulatory requirements. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child/young person is paramount;
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.
- all children have a positive and enjoyable experience of dance and the associated arts with BTDA in a safe and child centred

environment and are protected from abuse whilst participating in activities provided by BTDA

We will seek to keep children and young people safe by:

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them;
- adopting child protection practices through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers;
- developing and implementing an effective e-safety policy and related procedures;
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training;
- recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made;
- sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers;
- sharing concerns with agencies who need to know and involving parents and children appropriately.
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.