

Purpose of the Policy

Momentum School of Dance is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all vulnerable adults participating in our activities. This policy outlines our approach to safeguarding vulnerable adults in accordance with UK legislation, including the *Care Act 2014* and relevant guidance such as the *Keeping Adults Safe in Care* framework.

1. Definitions

1.1 Vulnerable Adults

A vulnerable adult is defined as a person aged 18 or over who:

- Has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting these needs)
- Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect.
- As a result of those care and support needs, is unable to protect themselves against abuse or neglect.

1.2 Types of Abuse

Abuse can take many forms, including but not limited to:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional or psychological abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Financial or material abuse
- Neglect or self-neglect
- Discriminatory abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Organisational abuse

2. Legal Framework

This policy adheres to the following UK safeguarding laws and guidance:

- *The Care Act 2014*
- *The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006*
- *Working Together to Safeguard Adults (2020)*
- *Data Protection Act 2018* and GDPR

3. Responsibilities

3.1 Momentum School of Dance

We are responsible for creating a safe environment where vulnerable adults feel respected, supported, and able to participate in dance activities without fear of harm.

3.2 Staff and Volunteers

All staff and volunteers have a duty to:

- Recognise the signs of abuse or neglect.
- Respond appropriately to concerns or disclosures.
- Report safeguarding issues promptly to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- Respect confidentiality but never promise to keep safeguarding concerns secret.

3.3 Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The DSL is responsible for:

- Overseeing safeguarding procedures.
- Acting as the first point of contact for safeguarding concerns.
- Liaising with local safeguarding boards and relevant authorities.
- Ensuring staff receive appropriate safeguarding training.

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS POLICY



4. Safeguarding Procedures

4.1 Recruitment and Training

- All staff and volunteers working with vulnerable adults will undergo enhanced DBS checks.
- Safeguarding training will be mandatory and updated annually.

4.2 Recognising and Responding to Concerns

Staff and volunteers must:

- Be alert to changes in behaviour or physical signs of abuse.
- Report concerns immediately to the DSL, using the Safeguarding Incident Report Form.
- Avoid investigating incidents themselves.

4.3 Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

- All concerns must be reported to the DSL, who will assess the situation and decide on the appropriate course of action.
- Where necessary, the DSL will contact the local authority's safeguarding team or the police.

4.4 Confidentiality and Record-Keeping

- All records of safeguarding concerns will be stored securely and in compliance with GDPR.
- Information will only be shared on a need-to-know basis.

5. Preventative Measures

- Maintain a culture of openness and respect in all activities.
- Ensure accessible reporting systems for concerns.
- Conduct risk assessments for all activities involving vulnerable adults.

6. Review and Updates

This policy will be reviewed annually or in response to changes in safeguarding legislation or guidance.

Approved By: Will Lonsdale, Principal.

Date: 11/12/2024, to be reviewed 11/12/2025

Contact Information

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Mr Will Lonsdale, 07915 268150

- **Local Safeguarding Authority:** 0300 500 8080
- **NSPCC Helpline:** 0808 800 5000