

# Signature Ballroom

## Child Safeguarding Policy

### Statement of Intent

Signature Ballroom is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people under 18. The welfare of the child is of paramount importance (Children Act 1989, 2004; Education Act 2002).

### Key Principles

Children must be protected from maltreatment, neglect, physical harm, emotional harm, and sexual abuse. Children should be raised in safe environments and given the opportunity to achieve their full potential. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

### Areas of Concern in Dance (examples)

Unsafe teaching methods (forcing stretches, pushing/pulling). Inappropriate criticism, intimidation, or bullying. Unsafe costumes or choreography. Photography, filming, or social media use without consent. Lack of appropriate supervision at classes, shows, or travel events.

### Procedures

All staff/teachers must hold valid DBS checks, references, and safeguarding training. Any safeguarding concerns must be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). In emergencies, concerns must be reported to police (999) or Children's Social Care. All disclosures must be listened to respectfully, recorded word-for-word, signed, dated, and stored securely. GDPR and the Data Protection Act are not barriers to sharing safeguarding concerns with relevant authorities.

### Support & Resources

NSPCC helpline: 0808 800 5000 Samaritans: 116 123 Mind (mental health support)

### Designated Safeguarding Lead

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is: Abi Manly – 07801 802140 All safeguarding concerns should be directed to the DSL in the first instance.