



EKB Performing Arts

Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy 2024

Date of Last Review: 01/09/2024

This document outlines EKB Performing Arts safeguarding policy to be followed by all staff.

1. Purpose & Scope of the Policy

At EKB Performing Arts, we are committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults in our care. This policy outlines our commitment to safeguarding and provides guidance on how we will protect individuals from harm, abuse, or neglect while they engage in our activities.

This policy applies to:

- All staff, teachers, volunteers, and contractors working with EKB Performing Arts.
- Students, parents, and guardians engaging in school-related activities.
- Any external organisations or individuals associated with events or programs organised by EKB Performing Arts.
- To ensure EKB Performing Arts is compliant with safeguarding standards and therefore creating a safe and supportive environment for all children and young people attending as well as staff.

2. Key Principles

- **Welfare is Paramount:** The welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults is our primary concern.
- **Equal Rights:** All individuals, regardless of age, gender, ability, race, culture, religion, or sexual orientation, have the right to feel safe and protected.
- **Prevention:** We will actively prevent abuse, harm, or neglect by creating a safe environment.
- **Empowerment:** We aim to promote confidence, autonomy, and a positive atmosphere for all students.

3. Safeguarding Measures

1. Recruitment and Training

- All staff and volunteers will undergo appropriate background checks. All staff will hold an enhanced DBS.
- Induction training will include safeguarding protocols and recognising signs of abuse.

2. Code of Conduct

- Maintain professional boundaries at all times.
- Avoid one-to-one situations without proper safeguarding measures.
- No inappropriate physical contact, language, or behaviour .

3. Safe Physical Environment

- Studios and facilities will be regularly inspected for safety hazards.
- Clear policies on supervision and drop-off/pick-up protocols.

4. Photography and Social Media

- Written consent from parents/guardians will be required for photography or videos.
- Students' images will not be shared on social media without explicit permission.

4. Confidentiality

- Any safeguarding concerns will be treated with strict confidentiality.
- Information will only be shared on a need-to-know basis in compliance with legal and ethical guidelines.

5. Responding to Allegations

- Any allegations against staff, volunteers, or students will be taken seriously.
- Immediate steps will include removing the individual from situations where they have access to children while investigations are conducted.
- Reports will be made to relevant authorities if necessary.

6. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if legislation or circumstances require updates. Feedback from staff, parents, and students will be considered in the review process.

The person who has overall responsibility for safeguarding and child protection issues with EKB Performing Arts is the Director: Emily Bucknall who can be contacted at ekbperformingarts@gmail.com

7. Child Protection

As per the safeguarding measures, the recruitment of staff and volunteers is extremely thorough to ensure they hold an Enhanced Disclosure certificate and all the necessary safeguarding training.

Young people will be supervised by EKB Performing Arts staff throughout the session, including during any breaks. This supervision only applies from the advertised start time of the session and if in the event of a student arriving early, parents/carers understand it is their duty to ensure the student in their care is properly looked after until the class starts. Students should also be collected promptly at the end of classes.

- All activities organised by EKB Performing Arts are subject to risk assessments both during the planning stage and by monitoring the activity. Appropriate steps are taken to minimise any risks identified.

- Dance classes often involve physical contact between participants and between staff and participants. Physical contact will only be made when it is necessary in relation to the particular dance activity and with the agreement of the young people involved.

- We will not use photographic images of young people, for example for publicity purposes, without permission from the legal guardian at the point of registration. Even when such permission is given, the young person's full name and address will not be revealed.

- We keep records about participants so that we know whom to contact in case of an emergency, whether they suffer from any allergies, have a medical condition or a disability/special need and for monitoring purposes. These records are treated as confidential except where relevant information is given to class teachers/persons in charge.

8. Contact Information

- **Director of EKB Performing Arts: Emily Bucknall - ekbperformingarts@gmail.com**
- **Local Child Protection Services: NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000**
- **Emergency Services: 999**

9. Other Policies

This safeguarding policy should be read together with the following policies and resources:

- o EKB Performing Arts Terms & Conditions
- o EKB Performing Arts GDPR Policy

This policy has been drawn up in accordance with the following:

- o Children Act 1989
- o United Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- o General Data Protection Regulation
- o Human Rights Act 1998
- o Sexual Offences Act 2003
- o Children Act 2004
- o Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- o Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- o Children and Families Act 2014
- o Special educational needs and disability (SEND) code of practice - Guidance on the special educational needs and disability (SEND) system for children and young people aged 0 to 25, from 1 September 2014
- o Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services
- o Working together to safeguard children (2017)

Note: This document is reviewed yearly and was last updated: February 2025