

Safeguarding and Welfare Policy

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Person Responsible	Registrar
Linked policies	Complaints and Appeals Policy Student disciplinary Policy Equality and Diversity policy
Chapter in OU Operations Manual	8
Mapping to Quality Code	

8 Safeguarding and Welfare Policy

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 Ballet West fully recognises its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the students in its care, whether they attend full-time or outreach classes. This responsibility encompasses the following principles:

- To protect students from harm or maltreatment
- To prevent impairment of students' health and development
- To ensure that students are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care, thus enabling those students to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully
- To have in place procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse
- To support students who may have been abused
- Ballet West addresses its commitment to these principles through prevention and protection, as follows:

8.2 Prevention:

8.2.1 Ensuring all reasonable measures are taken to minimise the risks of harm to students. These include:

- Ensuring, through training, that all teaching and non-teaching staff are aware of and committed to this policy and the policies and procedures for Child Protection, Health & Safety and Anti-Bullying Behaviour
- Establishing a positive, supportive and secure environment in which students can learn and develop, where they have a sense of being valued, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to and respected
- Including in the curriculum activities and opportunities which equip students with the skills they need to stay safe from abuse and which help them develop skills and understanding to flourish throughout their lives
- Ensuring that students know that there are adults in the school whom they can approach if they are worried
- Ensuring that students are given advice and information about healthy eating and nutrition and are provided with regular access to local doctors and physiotherapists
- Developing and implementing a rigorous Health and Safety policy in school and making sure that the necessary Risk Assessments are undertaken when planning visits or trips away from the School
- Operating safe recruitment procedures, including PVG checks
- Welcoming visitors in a safe and secure manner
- Ensuring that any community groups which use our premises for the provision of services to children have their own Child Protection policy, or are prepared to adopt our own policy

8.3 Protection:

8.3.1 Ensuring that the school acts in co-operation with other agencies to protect and support students who have been abused. This includes:

- Developing and implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse.
- Ensuring all appropriate actions are taken to address concerns about the welfare of a student or students.
- Working to agreed local policies and procedures in full partnership with other local agencies especially the local Police and Argyll and Bute Council.
- Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving students and their parents/guardians/carers appropriately.