



# BLUE MOOSE

## DANCE COMPANY

### SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Sarah Hall

Last Renewed: September 2024

DISCOVER. CREATE. EMPOWER

## Our Organisation

[Blue Moose Dance Company](#) consists of two legal entities Blue Moose LTD and Blue Moose Dance Company CIC. This policy refers to and incorporates all activity which takes place within Blue Moose Ltd and Blue Moose Dance Company CIC.

Blue Moose LTD, Registered Company No. 10963231

Blue Moose Dance Company CIC, Registered Company No. 09343271

## Safeguarding Statement

[Blue Moose Dance Company](#) is committed to practice which promotes the welfare of children and protects them from harm. [Blue Moose Dance Company](#) strive to ensure that all children and young people participate in an enjoyable and safe learning environment in which they can have fun and feel valued.

[Blue Moose Dance Company](#) accept and recognise their responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause children and young people harm, and to establish and maintain a safe environment for them. [Blue Moose Dance Company](#) are committed to reviewing their policy, procedures and practice at regular intervals.

[Blue Moose Dance Company](#) will endeavour to safeguard children and young people by:

- Reporting any safeguarding concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), DSL's of relevant group organisers, Social Services, Safeguarding Officers in School settings and/or the Police, where most relevant, involving parents of children and young people appropriately
- Sharing information about safeguarding, child protection and good practice with children, parents, staff and volunteers.
- Ensuring that a Parent/Guardian have signed, completed and returned a Registration and Consent form for their child/young person, which includes any vital medical, contact details and photographic consent where appropriate. [Blue Moose Dance Company](#) will ensure that all forms are stored securely and information remains confidential.
- Ensuring safe dance practice is maintained throughout all sessions.

All Artists delivering on behalf of [Blue Moose Dance Company](#) will;

- Sign and agree to adhere to our [Code of Conduct](#)
- Hold a recent (within 3 years) DBS Enhanced Disclosure check, ideally on the update service, and commit to renewing this at least every three years where not on the update service of which [Blue Moose Dance Company](#) will have a record.
- Hold up-to-date Public Liability and Public Indemnity Insurance of up to £2 million of which [Blue Moose Dance Company](#) will have a record.
- Have completed suitable training in dance and safeguarding of children/young people.

- Regularly attend training sessions for Professional Dance Artists, which include safeguarding training and discussions.
- Ensure they remain up-to-date with changes regarding Safeguarding and Child Protection Legalisation.
- Ensure safety procedures are adhered to throughout all sessions alongside a Risk Assessment. Risk Assessments to be completed and shared with schools/organisations hosting the sessions where necessary.
- Regularly evaluate lessons to ensure good and safe dance practise is maintained.

#### Definitions of types of abuse:

- **Physical Abuse:** Physical abuse is when someone hurts or harms a child or young person on purpose. It includes: hitting with hands or objects, slapping and punching, kicking, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning and scalding, biting and scratching, breaking bones, drowning.
- **Emotional abuse:** Emotional abuse is any type of abuse that involves the continual emotional mistreatment of a child. It's sometimes called psychological abuse. Emotional abuse can involve deliberately trying to scare, humiliate, isolate or ignore a child.
- **Sexual abuse:** When a child or young person is sexually abused, they're forced, tricked or manipulated into sexual activities. They might not understand that what's happening is abuse or that it's wrong for the abuser to do this to them. They might be afraid to tell someone or behave as though this is normal for them to experience, both are valid for the child to be displaying. Sexual abuse can happen anywhere – and it can happen in person or online.
- **Neglect:** Neglect is the ongoing failure to meet a child's basic needs and the most common form of child abuse. A child might be left hungry or dirty, or without proper clothing, shelter, supervision or health care. This can put children and young people in danger. And it can also have long term effects on their physical and mental wellbeing.
- Definitions of other types of abuse including Domestic Abuse, Grooming, Online Abuse, FGM, Criminal Exploitation and Non-recent abuse can be found at the [NSPCC website](#).

#### Possible indicators of abuse:

- Self-destructive and destructive behaviour
- Bruises, fracture, lacerations that cannot be explained adequately
- Failure to thrive
- Depression, passivity, hyperactivity/disruptive behaviour, inexplicable anxiety
- Sexualised behaviour, precocious knowledge of explicit sexual behaviour
- Running away, promiscuous behaviour
- Alcohol or drug abuse, other destructive behaviours and disorders

#### If a child discloses information of abuse, Artists will;

- Listen, rather than question
- Offer reassurance

- Tell the child that he/she hasn't done anything wrong
- Let the child know that she have to tell someone else
- Make notes of what is said, as soon as possible, note dates and times of events described, date and time of disclosure, sign the notes and keep a copy
- Report any concerns of abuse to Sarah Hall (DSL), Social Services, Safeguarding Officers in School settings and/or the Police, involving parents of children/young people appropriately

**Concern/Allegation with regard to Blue Moose Dance Company's behaviour:**

- Allegations of inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour or communication, favouritism or negligence regarding [Blue Moose Dance Company](#) should be referred to: Sarah Hall (DSL) or in the event of concern/allegation being made regarding Sarah Hall, concerns should then be referred to Michelle Hodgson or Richard Mounsey (Directors of [Blue Moose Dance Company CIC](#)) or the Police

## APPENDIX 1: FIRST AID AND CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE

If you are working with children and young people who are under 18 years old:

- Remember that a child/young person cannot give consent
- If the parent/accompanying adult is not at the premises, obtain their phone number and try and make contact or ensure you have signed permission in advance to administer First Aid in their absence
- If a child/young person is alone and seriously injured or unconscious, the situation will need to be dealt with immediately
- If at all possible, treatment should only be given by a trained First Aider
- Provided this does not in itself put the child/young person at risk, always try to administer First Aid with another adult present
- Always tell the child/young person exactly what you are doing and why
- Unless it is irrelevant, ask the child/young person if they use medication (e.g. for asthma, diabetes, and epilepsy) or have any allergies. Some people have allergic reactions to stings.
- For minor injuries, you may not offer any medication, including antiseptics or pills of any kind. If you have any doubts about helping someone to use their own medication, phone **National Health Service Direct on 0845 4647** or the emergency services.
- Any treatment should be as little as necessary without threatening the child/young person's wellbeing.