

DECORUS ACADEMY CHOREOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2019

SAFEGUARDING POLICY implemented from 1 January 2019

VENUE: Redborne Upper School, Connolly Hall, Flitwick Road, Ampthill, Bedfordshire

DATES: 24th February 2019

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT: *The safety of children and members of other vulnerable groups is paramount and all, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse. All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously, responded to swiftly and appropriately and all the Competition's trustees/organisers/staff/volunteers have a responsibility to report concerns.*

PURPOSE AND FUNCTION OF THE ORGANISATION

The Competition aims to advance the education of the public in the art of dance by promoting a competitive Competition for amateur performers, judged by professional adjudicators.

THE COMPETITION ENVIRONMENT

The Competition aims to create, in partnership with parents, guardians, carers and teachers, a safe and caring environment. The Competition expects children under the age of 18 and vulnerable adults, whether entering the Competition individually or as part of a group, to be accompanied by their parents, guardians or carers, or by adults appointed to them, who will supervise them in the public and changing areas.

The Connolly Hall Theatre is hired by Decorus Academy and the event is run solely by Decorus Academy volunteers. Other parts of the venue may be used by the public or other organisations during the hire period.

It is the policy of our competition to inform and involve parents/guardians/carers and teachers in partnership with you in order to ensure, as far as it is reasonably practicable, a safe environment at our competition. We do this by ensuring that you receive a copy of this policy.

TO WHOM DOES THIS POLICY APPLY

This policy relates to children under the age of 18 years and members of vulnerable groups of any age whose needs are identified to the Competition organisers by parents/guardians/carers and/or teachers prior to their arrival at the Competition. This should be done by contacting the address or telephone number at the foot of this document. Our competition actively seeks, wherever possible, to meet these needs, but must know beforehand in order to prepare support – or to let you know we are unable to help.

COMPETITION PERSONNEL

The Competition Secretary holds a register showing the names and addresses of all personnel. All personnel have a copy of this Safeguarding Policy and agree to abide by it. Recruitment of personnel is by personal recommendation. While on duty at the Competition, all personnel wear badges indicating their status and in the case of Committee members, their names. Anyone with any concerns relating to this policy may approach any member of staff identified by a badge. All concerns reported to staff will be reported to the Competition Secretary, who will record and date them, and will take such further action as may be appropriate. Where Competition procedures could involve personnel in dealing with children on a one-to-one basis, these duties are allocated to personnel who have been voluntarily checked through the Criminal Records Bureau.

PREPARATION FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE COMPETITION

Teachers will be required to show this policy to parents, etc and to certify that they have done so. Where parents are not attending with their children, this Policy document makes it clear that they will be expected to satisfy themselves that the children will be supervised by other responsible adults acting on their behalf.

PERFORMANCE AREAS AND CHANGING AREAS

Changing accommodation is provided. Single sex dressing rooms will be available but due to restricted areas a 'family room' will not be available. Changing rooms are not supervised by Competition staff. This Policy document makes it clear that parents must ensure that they supervise their children themselves, or arrange for another responsible adult to do so on their behalf. Public areas are not supervised.

Parents of younger children may (at the discretion of the stage manager) accompany them to the side of the stage, but if they wish to remain to watch the performance then they must be in possession of an admission ticket, this includes side of stage.

THE LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE THAT SUPPORTS THIS POLICY

The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974; The Children Act 1989; The Police Act 1997; The Data Protection Act 1998; The Human Rights Act 1998; The Protection of Children Act 1999; The Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000; The Children Act 2004; The Protection of Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.

POLICY REVIEW

The organisers will constantly review their policy revising and enhancing it as necessary. In turn will look to other agencies for good practice, most notably the NSPCC and Arts Council of England policy guidelines.

Contact: Laura Bennett

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**NAME OF COMPETITION- DECORUS ACADEMY CHOREOGRAPHY
COMPETITION**

NAME OF TEACHER / PARENT

I am in receipt of the Safeguarding Policy for the above Competition on behalf of children under 18 years entered on (dates).

I understand that the Competition has requested me to ensure that parents/guardians/carers know that responsibility lies with them in pursuance of this Child Protection Policy, which I have read and understand.

Signed

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Name in Capitals Job Title

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Pass this back to the Competition and keep your own copy.

Thank you for your involvement in best practice by being a partner in our Safeguarding Policy.