

Commitment to Child Safety

All children attending Infinite Dance Studios (IDS) have the right to feel and be safe, respected, valued and protected from harm. Children and their families should be made aware of, and feel confident in, their rights and responsibility. Infinite Dance Studios is strongly committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children that interact with our organisation, as students, siblings or friends of students, or audience members of performances.

The welfare of children entrusted in the care of IDS is our first priority and we have zero tolerance for child abuse.

Infinite Dance Studios will take all necessary steps to prevent and protect children from abuse and neglect, including:

- Physical abuse: purposefully injuring or threatening to injure a child
- Emotional abuse: an attack on a child's self-esteem through bullying, threatening, ridiculing, intimidating or isolating a child.
- Neglect: harming a child by failing to provide basic physical or emotional necessities
- Sexual abuse: any sexual act or sexual threat imposed upon a child

Who does this policy apply to?

This policy applies to any adult person (over the age of 18) staff member involved with Infinite Dance Studios that may work or interact with children at any time, including teachers, administration staff and volunteers.

- We are committed to providing an environment where all young people feel valued and can learn in a supportive atmosphere regardless of their skill level.
- Whilst we believe that discipline is important in the dance training industry, this does not involve yelling in a demeaning manner or isolating, threatening, bullying or victimising students.
- Our policies are well communicated to all staff, volunteers, children, families and members of the community.
- We have specific policies, procedures and training in place that support our leadership team, staff and volunteers to achieve these commitments.
- We lead on child safety from the top. Studio owners and key management staff all uphold and practice child safety and are on hand to support others in the organisation.
- We are committed to the holistic development of the children in our care and endeavour to incorporate discussions, workshops, displays and good teaching practice on health and wellbeing. This includes physical, mental and emotional health.

Notes:

In this policy, the term 'staff member' relates to any person occupying the above role, regardless of their employment status with IDS (whether they are independent contractors, volunteers, etc).

The term 'parents' applies to all parents, carers and legal guardians of children at Infinite Dance Studios.

Where children are in the care of IDS, but in another venue (such as a theatre for a performance), they will also be protected by that venue's Child Safety Policy.