

# Child Protection Policy

## Pirrie Performing Arts



Pirrie Performing Arts recognises its duty of care under the Children and Young Persons Act 1963, the Child (Performances) Regulations 1968, the Protection of Children Act 1999 and the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (in Scotland changed to Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003). Pirrie Studios recognise that abuse can take many forms, whether it be physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse or neglect.

This policy applies to all staff, including paid staff, volunteers, seasonal workers, reception staff or anyone who is authorised to work on behalf of Pirrie Performing Arts.

The purpose of this policy is:

1. To protect children and young people who attend any classes, workshops, holiday intensives or events held by Pirrie Studios.
2. To provide staff and volunteers with the principles, tools and knowledge that guide the approach of Pirrie Performing Arts to safeguarding individuals and child protection.

Pirrie Performing Arts is an activity provider. We believe strongly that any child, young person or adult should never experience abuse of any kind. We promote the welfare of children, young people and adults and strive to ensure these individuals/groups are kept safe at all times but more specifically, when attending any part of Pirrie Performing Arts.

Pirrie Performing Arts recognise that:

- The welfare of any individual is paramount
- All children, young people and adults regardless of age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to equal protection from all types of abuse
- Some individuals are additionally vulnerable because of their level of dependency, previous experiences, communication needs or other issues
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- All Pirrie Performing Arts staff should be clear on how to respond appropriately

Pirrie Studios will strive to keep children, young people and adults safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them without judgement
- Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for children, young people and adults
- Safeguarding children, young people and adults by following Pirrie Performing Arts Code Of Conduct
- Ensuring Pirrie Performing Arts Teachers are members of the PVG scheme
- Providing support and guidance whenever it is required for staff, volunteers, children, young people and adults via the DSO
- Making this policy readily viewable at all times via our website
- Using our Child Protection and Code Of Conduct policies professionally to share concerns and relevant information with any appropriate person and/or agencies who may need to know
- Using our Child Protection and Code Of Conduct policies and if required our terms and conditions policy to manage allegations against teachers and volunteers
- Creating and maintaining an anti bullying environment as per our code of conduct and ensuring that we have reporting procedures in place to help deal with any bullying indecencies appropriately, professionally and efficiently
- Ensuring that within reason, any service carried out by Pirrie Performing Arts is carried out in an appropriate pre-checked location
- Ensuring that our policies and procedures are reasonably kept up to date where and when possible/appropriate

