

**Guidelines for the teaching of Dance
in Primary and Secondary Schools**

This document has been designed to provide important information to Head Teachers, Teachers, Dance Teachers and Dance Practitioners regarding ‘good and safe practice’ when anyone is teaching dance within an education or community setting.

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Edited by June Gamble

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Practitioners:

Practitioners who deliver dance in schools must have:

Teaching Insurance:

Practitioners should have an insurance policy that covers them for the duties to be undertaken, this ensures the individual and participants are covered in the event of accident, negligence etc. Essential cover is required: Public Liability and Professional Indemnity – a minimum of £5 million is recommended.

Links to policy providers:

<http://www.danceuk.org/joining-us/>

<http://www.communitydance.org.uk/>

<http://www.charityinsure.co.uk/>

<http://www.equity.org.uk/dance/>

DBS Check:

All practitioners must have a valid enhanced DBS check.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service>

Dance Leaders (or Equivalent level 2 certificate)

Minimum of Level 2 Qualifications qualify the practitioner to prepare, deliver and review sessions, without the supervision. Level 2 equivalent qualifications;

- GCSE at grades A*–C
- Higher Diploma
- City & Guilds, Level 2

It is also recommended that practitioners complete a Dance/Sports Leaders course.

*(Please note it is only possible to achieve this if you are 16 years plus. If you are leading sessions and you are between the ages of 14-16 then it is possible to do Dance Leaders Level 1, however, it is the institutions' responsibility to make sure there is a qualified member of staff present to supervise the session. It would be recommended, upon reaching 16 years of age, that you do a Level 2 dance leaders course)

For information regarding Dance Leaders courses in Plymouth please contact:

info@barbicantheatre.co.uk or claire@eximdance.org.uk

Safeguarding and Child Protection Training

Courses should raise awareness of the signs of abuse and poor practice, and equip the practitioner with the tools to deal with any issues sensitively, appropriately and effectively.

For more information on courses available contact:

admin@plymouthdance.org.uk or claire.summers@plymouthdance.org.uk

First Aid Training

Basic knowledge on how to respond in an emergency, this included cuts, bruises, sprains, head injuries and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation. A Course should be attended every three years which should be a minimum 6 hour EFAAW (Emergency First Aid at Work) recognised course.

For more information see: <http://sportscoachuk.org>

Professional Experience – how you will know if someone has professional experience

The practitioner should have a full understanding of the style that they are teaching

e.g. if teaching Hip Hop or any form of Street Dance, they will have:

1. experience of the foundations and the history of their dance form
2. be able to demonstrate a track record and a strong reputation for teaching the specific style or form of dance
3. have been involved in the Culture and the scene (attended national/international Battles/Competitions)
4. worked with other credible dancers, including pioneers and leading dancers in the scene

if teaching contemporary dance or ballet, they will have:

1. experience of the foundations and the history of their dance form
2. be able to demonstrate a track record and a strong reputation for teaching the specific style or form of dance
3. have a BA Honours degree in dance or a high level certificate in ballet
4. worked with other credible dancers, including pioneers and leading dancers in the scene

Schools must provide:

1. Where requested by the dance practitioner, the presence of a teacher or classroom assistant in the room at all times during the workshop, to be responsible for class discipline and health and safety
2. The schools must have the relevant insurance for providing any dance workshop or dance related session, including Public Liability Insurance
3. Risk Assessment
4. A professional closed space of adequate size for the maximum group size (30), cleared of obstacles and with cleaned even surface (ideally not a carpeted area or concrete floor – if this is unavoidable, please discuss with the dance practitioner in advance), please advise of dimensions
5. Clear information provided in advance regarding the age and ability of the group.
6. Health/Medical statements for each pupil participating. If there are any pupils with special needs, it is essential that this is discussed with the dance practitioner well beforehand.
7. Emergency contact details for each pupil participating
8. Signed permission forms for each pupil participating to be photographed or filmed. If any child is not permitted to be photographed or filmed, the school must make the dance practitioner aware of this prior to the start of the workshop
9. Provision of a sound system (MP3 and iphone sockets)
10. Participants must wear clothing which allows them to move freely
11. Students should not wear jewellery
12. Supervision of students over lunch and other such non-workshop times within the day
13. The dance practitioner reserves the right to send participants away or out of a workshop at its discretion
14. Toilets and changing area for the dance practitioner and the participants close to the working area

Participants to provide:

Permission Forms (Film/Photography)

Forms signed by a parent/guardian giving permission for the child to be photographed or filmed.

If any child is not permitted to be photographed or filmed, the school must make the dance practitioner aware of this prior to the start of the workshop

Emergency Contact Details

Emergency contact details to be provided by a parent/guardian, so that the dance practitioner/school know who to contact in the case of an accident, illness or any other emergency.

Health/Medical Statement

Health/medical statement to be provided by a parent/guardian, so that the dance practitioner/school is aware of any health/medical needs and can make the appropriate allowances/provision.