



Child Safeguarding Statement - Steptacular Performing Arts

Name of Service: Steptacular Performing Arts

Nature of Service: Performing arts education including dance, drama, musical theatre, rehearsals, workshops, and performances for children and young people.

Date of Adoption: Jan 2026

Review Date: Jan 2029

1. Our Commitment to Child Safety

Steptacular Performing Arts is committed to safeguarding children and young people who participate in our programs. We recognize our duty of care to ensure that children are protected from harm and that their welfare is promoted in all activities.

We aim to create a safe, positive, inclusive, and respectful environment where every child can learn, perform, and develop confidently.

This Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children.

2. Risk Assessment

Steptacular Performing Arts has assessed potential risks of harm to children in the context of our services. The following areas were identified:

- One-to-one teaching or coaching situations
- Changing areas and backstage environments
- Physical contact during dance instruction and choreography
- Transport arrangements for performances or events
- Online communication and social media interaction
- Photography and video recording at events
- Drop-off and collection of children
- External tutors and guest instructors

3. Safeguarding Procedures in Place

To manage the risks identified above, Steptacular Performing Arts has implemented the following procedures:

Recruitment and Vetting

- Garda Vetting is required for all staff, tutors, volunteers, and contractors working with children
- References are obtained where appropriate
- Clear role descriptions and safeguarding expectations are provided

Staff Code of Conduct

All staff and volunteers must:

- Treat children with respect and dignity
- Maintain appropriate professional boundaries

- Avoid being alone with a child where possible
- Use appropriate physical contact only when necessary for instruction and with consent
- Follow reporting procedures for any concerns

Training and Awareness

- Staff receive safeguarding information and guidance
- All personnel are familiar with Children First obligations
- The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is identified and accessible

Reporting Procedures

Steptacular Performing Arts follows Children First reporting procedures:

- Any child protection or welfare concern will be reported to Tusla where required
- Mandated people will fulfil their statutory reporting responsibilities
- Records of concern will be maintained securely

Supervision and Safety Practices

- Adequate supervision is provided during classes and rehearsals
- Safe arrival and collection procedures are followed
- Emergency contact details are maintained
- First aid procedures are in place

Photography, Video and Media Use

- Parental consent is obtained for photography and video recording
- Images are used responsibly and professionally
- Children's full names will not be publicly linked to images

4. Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

Steptacular Performing Arts has appointed the following Designated Liaison Person:

Name: Nicole McDonald

Role: Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

Contact: 0876641022 / steptacular30@icloud.com

Deputy DLP: Roisin Currid

0838343212 / roisin_walsh35@hotmail.com

The DLP is responsible for managing child protection concerns and acting as the main point of contact with Tusla and relevant authorities.

5. Availability of This Statement

This Child Safeguarding Statement is:

- Available to parents and guardians upon request
- Displayed at Steptacular Performing Arts Website
- Provided to staff and volunteers

6. Review of This Statement

This statement will be reviewed:

- Every three years
- Or sooner if there is a material change in services or legislation

Signed: Nicole McDonald

Director, Steptacular Performing Arts

Date: Jan 2026