

The McCarthy School of Dance

Student Code of Conduct

The McCarthy School of Dance must make sure that everyone taking part in our services has seen, understood and agreed to follow this code of behaviour, and that they understand the consequences of inappropriate behaviour.

We expect people who take part in our services to display appropriate behaviour at all times. This includes behaviour that takes place outside our organisation and behaviour that takes place online.

This code of behaviour aims to:

- identify acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
- encourage cooperation, honesty, fairness and respect
- create an environment where your self-esteem, self-respect and self-confidence will grow
- encourage you to recognise and respect the rights of others
- encourage you to take responsibility for your own behaviour
- help resolve conflicts and make it clear what will happen if you decide not to

You should:

- cooperate with others
- be friendly
- listen to others
- be helpful
- have good manners
- treat everyone with respect
- take responsibility for your own behaviour
- talk to a teacher about anything that worries or concerns you
- join in and have fun!

You shouldn't:

- be disrespectful to anyone else
- bully each other (online or offline)
- behave in a way that could be intimidating
- be abusive towards anyone.

What happens if I decide not to follow the code of behaviour?

This code of behaviour is part of a process for making sure everyone who participates in our services receives appropriate support. If you behave inappropriately, staff or volunteers will remind you about the code of behaviour and ask you to comply with it. They will give you an opportunity to change your behaviour. This gives you the chance to reflect and to plan a positive response with support from staff and/or volunteers.

Traffic Light System:

- If you continue to behave inappropriately after your first reminder, or if your behaviour is more serious, you will be given a formal, green light warning. We will record the incident and inform your parents or carers. We will also talk with you about what happened and agree what support you need to improve your behaviour in the future.
- If you continue to behave inappropriately after the green light warning, you will be given a formal amber light warning. We may also decide that a sanction is appropriate such as restricting you from attending certain classes. Again, we will record the incident and inform your parents or carers. We will also talk with you about what happened and agree what support you need to improve your behaviour in the future.
- If the support we have put in place isn't helping you to change your behaviour, we may need to give you a formal red light warning. We will record the incident and inform your parents or carers. At this point, we may need to talk with you and your parents about other services that might be more able to give you the support you need.

The role of parents and carers:

We see parents and carers as valuable partners in promoting positive behaviour and will involve them as appropriate. We will always inform and involve your parents or carers if you receive a formal warning for inappropriate behaviour.

Child protection procedures:

If any member of staff or volunteer becomes concerned that your behaviour suggests you may be at risk of significant harm or that you may present a risk of significant harm to other children, they will follow child protection procedures. This may involve making a referral to the local authority children's social care department.

If child protection procedures are necessary, we will talk this through with you and your parents as soon as possible, unless doing so would endanger your safety or interfere with a police investigation.