



Michelle L. Vennix

School of Dance and Yoga

Child Safety Code of Conduct

Michelle L Vennix School of Dance and Yoga is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. Our school community recognises the importance of, and a responsibility for, ensuring our school is a safe, supportive and enriching environment. We are committed to ensuring our school environment respects and fosters the dignity and self-esteem of all children, and enables them to thrive in their learning and development.

This Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for child abuse or harm to occur. It also helps staff and volunteers by providing them with guidance on how to best support children and how to avoid or better manage difficult situations. All staff and volunteers are required to comply. It is intended to complement Child Protection Legislation, school policies and procedures and Professional Standards, Codes or Ethics as these apply to staff and other personnel.

The Principal and school leaders of Michelle L Vennix School of Dance and Yoga will support the implementation and monitoring of the Code of Conduct, and will plan, implement and monitor arrangements to provide an inclusive, safe and orderly learning environment. The Principal and school leaders of Michelle L Vennix School of Dance and Yoga will also provide information and support to enable the Code of Conduct to operate effectively in our community.

All staff, contractors, volunteers and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work are required to comply with the Code of Conduct by observing expectations for appropriate behaviour below. The Code of Conduct applies in all school situations, including school excursion and incursions and in the use of digital technology and social media.

Acceptable Behaviours

As staff, volunteers, contractors, and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work individually, we are responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- upholding the school's Statement of Commitment to child safety at all times and adhering to Michelle L Vennix School of Dance and Yoga Child Safety Policy and Procedures.
- taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse.
- treating students and families in the school community with respect both within the school environment and outside the school environment as part of normal social and community activities.
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of students, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused or that they are worried about their safety or the safety of another child.
- welcoming all children and their families and carers and being inclusive
- respecting cultural, religious and political differences and acting in a culturally sensitive way
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or other child safety concerns to the school's Principal.
- understanding and complying with all reporting or disclosure obligations (including mandatory reporting) as they relate to protecting children from harm or abuse.



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- if child abuse is suspected, ensuring as quickly as possible that the student(s) are safe and protected from harm.
- respecting the privacy of children and their families, and only disclosing information to people who have a need to know.

Unacceptable Behaviours

As staff, volunteers, contractors, and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work we must not:

- ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse.
- develop a relationship with any student that could be seen as favouritism or amount to 'grooming' behaviour.
- exhibit behaviours or engage in activities with students which may be interpreted as abusive and not justified by the educational, therapeutic, or dance teaching context .
- ignore behaviours by other adults towards students when they appear to be overly familiar or inappropriate.
- discuss content of an intimate nature or use sexual innuendo with students, except where it occurs relevantly in the context of parental guidance, delivering the education curriculum or a therapeutic setting.
- treat a child unfavourably because of their disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity.
- communicate directly with a student through personal or private contact channels (including by social media, email, instant messaging, texting etc) except where that communication is reasonable in all the circumstances, related to school work or extra-curricular activities or where there is a safety concern or other urgent matter.
- photograph or video a child in a school environment except in accordance with school policy or where required for duty of care purposes.
- in the school environment or at other school events where students are present, consume alcohol contrary to school policy or take illicit drugs under any circumstances.

I have read this Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it at all times.

Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Witness _____

Date _____

This Code of Conduct was endorsed January 2017.