



**YORKSHIRE**  
BALLET SEMINARS

**Director: Iain Mackay**

**Founder: David Gayle MBE**

Patron: Anya Sainsbury CBE, Sir Anthony Dowell CBE, Kevin O'Hare,  
Michael Nunn OBE, William Trevitt OBE

## **APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL CONTACT IN DANCE POLICY**

Teaching classical ballet is a physical activity and appropriate physical contact between students and teachers in class is essential to ballet training. Teachers can make physical contact with a student to illustrate a concept or to adjust a student's alignment (especially with the younger students). Ballet posture often requires adjustment of the rib-cage and the buttock area simultaneously.

Yorkshire Ballet Seminars ("YBS") recognises that such physical contact is a potentially complex area; Yorkshire Ballet Seminars also fully recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding students and teachers and for protecting their welfare.

The following principles and procedures are in place to fulfil the YBS obligations:

1. Contact by the teacher is made with particular awareness of the needs of each individual, to assist the dancer in correcting placement.
2. All teachers will treat any physical contact with due sensitivity and care, and with due regard for the wishes of the student.
3. Contact will not involve force or the use of any instrument.
4. Teachers will be mindful of location and avoid situations where they are isolated with a student; all classes should be held in studios and dance areas with windows.
5. Students should be encouraged to discuss any worries with any member of staff or an Independent Listener.
6. Both students and teachers should feel free to report any concerns to the Artistic Director.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, May 2022

Date of next review, May 2023