



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

**Artistic Director Isabelle Brouwers Founder David Gayle**

## **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 particular parts of the body 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. Physical contact by the teacher is made with particular awareness of the needs of each individual, to assist the dancer in correcting placement or illustrating a concept.
2. All teachers will treat any physical contact with due sensitivity and care, and with due regard for the wishes of the student.
3. Physical contact will not involve force or the use of any instrument.
4. For corrections using physical contact consent must be given by the student.
5. Students should be encouraged to discuss any worries with any member of staff.
6. Please report any concerns to the Artistic Director.
7. Teachers must not be on their own with a student. All classes should be held in studios and dance areas with windows.

**Approved by the Board of Trustees, 26 January 2026**

**Date of next review, January 2027**