



RED FLAG EDUCATION IN DANCE SPORT



"Ask First, Explain Why, Respect Always."



Students and teachers need to be able to identify red flags:

- Unexplained or excessive physical contact
- Private lessons in isolated areas without transparency
- Comments about a student's body unrelated to technique
- Ignoring expressed discomfort or feedback
- Teachers discouraging students from reporting concerns

How to avoid a red flag situation for dancers, teachers and students

Technique with Consent

Every physical correction must be explained, consented to, and respectful.

Touch with Purpose

Physical contact should always have a clear instructional purpose.

Professionalism Builds Trust

Respectful conduct helps grow student confidence and industry reputation.

Communication is Key

Always explain why, how, and where you're touching before doing so.

Teach the Person, Not Just the Dancer

Be mindful of individual comfort, cultural differences, and personal boundaries.

Reporting & Accountability

The BDSA has a clear, anonymous reporting pathway and has a zero-retaliation policy for raising concerns with follow-up procedures to ensure accountability and resolution.

If you have a concern about appropriate behaviour or would like to make a report, then you can contact our

Safeguarding Team on [0800 170 0555](tel:08001700555).

You can also use our dedicated email address: besafe@bdsassociation.com

This should be echoed in each dance studio or school's own safeguarding procedures and policies. There should be a

- Safe contact person at the studio (usually your safeguarding officer)
- Zero retaliation policy for raising concerns
- Follow-up procedures to ensure accountability and resolution