

Standards of behaviour as part of the protection concept (declaration of commitment)

LAG Tanz NRW's protection concept forms the basis for an approach of mindfulness, enhancing confidence in taking action and conscious preventative measures as part of the protection of children and young people. In this regard, LAG Tanz NRW issues these standards of behaviour to those employed at its office and in its projects (salaried employees, freelancers, volunteers, project leaders, workshop leaders, lecturers and supervisors) as a basis for their conduct.

Structuring closeness and distance

- I will endeavour to achieve clarity with regard to the roles in the educational dance project that I supervise. Building relationships with the children and young people taking part in the project corresponds to my role and my pedagogical responsibilities.
- I will not engage in friendships or exclusive contact with individual children and young people and will avoid creating emotional dependencies, e.g. through gifts, confidences and flattery.
- Games, techniques, exercises and activities are designed by me in such a way that children and young people do not cross any inappropriate boundaries or put themselves in physical danger.
- I will endeavour to create an atmosphere of acceptance within my group, where there is space for physical and psychological limitations, individual values and diverse sexual identities and orientations. I will take the personal feelings regarding boundaries that result from this seriously. Any violations of boundaries committed within the group will be addressed.

Appropriate physical contact

- Touching is part of the daily routine in teaching dance (choreographic arrangement, providing assistance, partner exercises, etc.). For this purpose, I will always obtain the participants' consent in advance and respond to even the slightest indication of opposition. The rejection of physical contact is accepted without exception.
- The following applies in the event of an emergency: if it is not possible to obtain prior consent for physical contact in order to avert acute danger or provide first aid, I will talk to the child or young person and, if necessary, their parents or guardians to explain the situation.
- My preferred way of supporting children and young people who are looking for reassurance or comfort is through words.

Language, choice of words and non-verbal communication

- I will use respectful language when speaking to my co-workers and participants and practise non-violent communication.
- If boundaries are transgressed in verbal or non-verbal communication, I will intervene and make people aware of the appropriate use of language and gestures.
- I am open to receiving feedback and criticism and regard it as an opportunity to improve my work and to encourage the children and young people to express their ideas or criticism effectively.

Premises

- One-to-one discussions, practice sessions, individual lessons, etc. are held in the rooms provided for this purpose only, and can be accessed from the outside at all times.
- The following generally applies: I will not use the changing rooms or sanitary facilities at the same time as the children and young people while they are changing or engaged in personal hygiene.
- The following applies to individuals with special assistance needs: If children and young people require assistance changing their clothes or visiting the toilet, I will discuss their specific requirements with their parents or guardians in advance and obtain their consent for the measures discussed.

- For events involving overnight stays, children and young people will be given separate accommodation from adults and their rooms will be treated as a private space. Where hostel accommodation is required, the consent of the parents or legal guardians will be obtained in advance and care will be taken to ensure that adults are kept at an appropriate distance from the areas where children and young people sleep.

Use of media and social media networks

- When selecting pieces of music and, if necessary, using media content, I will ensure that the content is age-appropriate and that it does not glamourise violence, pornography, derogatory language or discrimination. I will make all participants and any visitors to a performance aware of trigger warnings, e.g. strobe lights or topics relating to violence/war.
- The use of social media and messenger services to communicate with children and young people involved in my project is solely for the purposes of the project. When publishing audio/visual content, I will respect the general right of individual privacy and in particular the right to one's own image.
- I will also ensure that no "suggestive" images of children and young people are published (minors dressed in skimpy outfits, with their legs spread, in other words: photos of individuals in poses which can also be perceived as appealing if looked at in the "wrong way").
- If I notice or become aware of children and young people in my project using digital media inappropriately, I will address any transgressive or harmful behaviour.

I have read the Standards of Behaviour and will endeavour to interact with children and young people accordingly to the best of my knowledge and ability.

Supplementary declaration of commitment: In addition to the extended police clearance certificate (*Führungszeugnis*) submitted by me, I hereby confirm that I have not been convicted of an offence under Sections 171, 174 to 174c, 176 to 180a, 181a, 182 to 184f, 225, 232 to 233a, 234, 235 or 236 of the German Criminal Code (StGB) and that no such proceedings have been brought against me. In the event that a preliminary investigation has been initiated against me in this regard, I undertake to inform LAG Tanz NRW of this without delay.

Project title and/or number

First and Surname

Date of birth

Place, date

Signature