



LONDON DANCE AND CHEER ACADEMY (LDCA) Online and Digital Policy

Purpose

London Dance and Cheer Academy (LDCA) sets out this policy to define our expectations on behaviour online. With the rise in online harms and increasing digital use amongst young people globally, LDCA takes online safety very seriously. The values of kindness and inclusion that we promote offline must be equally upheld online in interactions between athletes, families, LDCA coaches and staff.

This policy outlines expectations for all members of the LDCA community, to ensure that our online spaces remain safe, respectful, and supportive environments.

Our Values Online

LDCA prides itself on its values of kindness, respect, and inclusion. We expect these values to be consistently demonstrated across all digital platforms, including:

- Social media
- Messaging platforms; such as WhatsApp, Snapchat etc
- Online learning environments; such as Google Classroom
- Email communications
- Any other digital interactions connected to LDCA

All members of the community, athletes, staff, and families, share a responsibility to model the positive behaviours we wish to see in young people.

Community Responsibility

The rise in online harms and increasing digital dependency among young people is something that concerns us all. At LDCA, we believe that:

- Everyone has a role in promoting safe and respectful online behaviour
- Adults should model appropriate and responsible digital conduct

- Young people should be supported in developing healthy digital habits and healthy social media feeds.

We encourage open conversations about online safety and responsible technology use both at home and within the LDCA environment.

At all LDCA events, mobile phone usage by young people is strictly prohibited. We encourage all of our young members to be present in the live environment.

Expected Behaviour

We recognise that young people at LDCA build friendships and develop team camaraderie, that leads to communications extending beyond the academy, and they may wish to stay in contact digitally.

However, when engaging online in any LDCA-related or private context, individuals are expected to:

- Communicate respectfully and courteously at all times
- Demonstrate kindness and empathy towards others
- Avoid posting or sharing harmful, offensive, or inappropriate content
- Respect the privacy and confidentiality of others
- Think carefully before posting, recognising the lasting impact of digital content

Any behaviour that contradicts LDCA's values, such as bullying, harassment, exclusion, or intimidation will not be tolerated.

Online Safety

To support a safe digital environment, LDCA encourages Parents and Guardians to:

- Be aware of online risks, including cyberbullying, misinformation, and inappropriate content
- Support young people in exercising caution in relation to their personal information, privacy settings and their digital footprint
- Report any concerns or incidents promptly to LDCA staff

We are committed to promoting online safety and kindness within our community and providing guidance where needed.

Use of Digital Platforms

The digital platforms operated by LDCA are intended to:

- Support learning and/or communication

- Foster community engagement
- Reflect the values and ethos of LDCA

Members of the wider LDCA community must therefore also not misuse these platforms in ways that disrupt learning, or cause harm and distress to others.

Monitoring and Reporting

Concerns about online behaviour should be reported promptly to LDCA. All reports will be taken seriously and addressed in line with our safeguarding, behaviour and code of conduct policies.

Where appropriate, further action may be taken to ensure the safety and wellbeing of those involved.

Conclusion

As a community, we recognise both the opportunities and challenges that the digital world presents. By working together and upholding our shared values, we can ensure that online interactions amongst our young people reflect the same kindness, respect, and inclusion that define LDCA offline.

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