

- Teaching Dance is a physical activity and appropriate physical contact between pupils and teachers in class is essential to dance training.
- Teachers can make physical contact with a pupil to illustrate a concept or to adjust a pupil's alignment.
- Teachers demonstrate positions and movements to pupils by moving parts of the pupils' bodies and by moving pupils in relation to each other: this often involves a considerable amount of contact with pupils.
- Contact by the teacher is made with particular awareness of the needs of each individual, to assist the pupils in correcting placement or to avoid injury.
- All teachers will treat any physical contact with due sensitivity and care, and with due regard for the wishes of the pupil. Pupils will always be informed before physical contact takes place.
- Teachers will be mindful of location and avoid situations where they are isolated with a pupil;

Professional Conduct for Teachers of Dance, the Council for Dance Education and Training Guidelines <https://www.britishdancecouncil.info>

- When teaching posture and correct placing, it may be entirely appropriate to use physical touch to cue the correct pattern of movement.
- Treating young pupils with respect and dignity and permission will always be sought before we touch.
- Asking will therefore be age-specific and take account of the maturity of the individual. In cross gender classes (female teacher/male pupil or male teacher/female pupil), extra care must be taken.
- The teacher will consider carefully the desired outcome of touching the pupils and be very aware of the potential for misunderstandings.
- In many everyday situations, a simple 'may I?' will be used when approaching a pupil.
- Consideration will be made before touching a child and, importantly, recognise a child who does not want to be touched.
- Teachers will be especially aware of corrections close to the pelvis and should try to keep this to a minimum.
- This is a teaching method that we use to enhance the process of learning to dance. In an almost clinical fashion, the teacher will touch in a manner that is firm, direct and necessary.
- Maintaining good eye contact with pupils when giving hands-on feedback the teacher can monitor what the pupil is experiencing and, if necessary, modify the contact. In establishing eye contact, teachers are also giving reassurance and showing a confident, professional manner.
- Physically touching a pupil is all about giving kinaesthetic feedback. In order for most pupils to learn precisely how to perform a complex movement, the body has to physically learn the best way to do this. Kinaesthetic awareness comes internally from the pupil. It is an awareness of the shape of a movement, an awareness of pressure, relaxation, contraction and physical positions.
- By touching a pupil, we are aiming to encourage kinaesthetic response to give instant feedback to the pupil to allow the body to programme good muscle patterning of any particular movement.
- By developing good kinaesthetic awareness in our pupils and encouraging personal responsibility, the learning takes place faster. Checking that learning has occurred is fundamentally good teaching.
- Dancing is a physical skill. In order to help and facilitate the pupil's learning, the teacher may occasionally physically guide a movement by touch. This will be in a professional manner and the intention of the contact will be made clear.