



Martial Arts Alliance

Safeguarding Policy Statement

Martial Arts Alliance
(July 2022)

Safeguarding Policy Statement

Note: The terms 'child' and 'young person' describe any person under the age of 18. References to 'parents' should be read as parents and carers inclusively.

Our statement

Freestyle Martial Arts acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and Martial Arts Alliance requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children:

- Have a positive and enjoyable experience of all activities at **Freestyle Martial Arts** in a safe and child centred environment.
- Are protected from abuse whilst participating in martial arts or outside of the activity.

We acknowledge that some children, including disabled children or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

Our Policy

What we'll do

As part of our safeguarding policy, we will:

- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- Value, listen to and respect children.
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.
- Adopt safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures, and code of conduct for instructors and assistants.
- Ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify, and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people.

- Provide effective management for instructors and assistants through supervision, support, training, and quality assurance measures so that all instructors and assistants know about our policies, procedures and behaviour codes and follow them confidently and competently.
- Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents or concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual(s) who raise or disclose the concern.
- Ensure that confidential, detailed, and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored.
- Record and store information securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance [more information about this is available from martialartsallaince.co.uk]
- Prevent the employment or deployment of unsuitable individuals by recruiting and selecting instructors and assistants safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
- Appoint a nominated safeguarding lead for children and young people for safeguarding.
- Develop and implement an effective online safety policy and related procedures.
- Share information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their parents via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions.
- Make sure that children, young people, and their parents know where to go for help if they have a concern.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in **Freestyle Martial Arts**. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the organisation.

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- Changes in legislation and/or government guidance.
- As required by the local safeguarding partnership, UK Sport and/or home country sports councils and Martial Arts Alliance.
- As a result of any other significant change or event.

This policy was last reviewed on **11/03/2022**

Reviewed By: **Master Phil Hatton (7th Dan)**

[this should be signed by the most senior person with responsibility for safeguarding in your organisation, for example the safeguarding lead on your board of trustees].

Contact details

Our Safeguarding Officer

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In a safeguarding emergency, where a young person is at immediate risk of harm, call 999.