

### Safeguarding policy - ASHTEAD GYMNASTICS

Ashtead gymnastics recognises its duty of care under the Children and Young Persons Act 1963, the Children (Performances and Activities) (England) Regulations 2014, the Children Act 1989 and 2004 and the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (in Scotland Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003), Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

Child protection is at the very core of the values of Ashtead Gymnastics, and all those working for or with the partnership. Ashtead Gymnastics is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people involved with the partnership. It recognises its responsibility to take all reasonable steps to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. Ashtead Gymnastics acknowledges its duty to act appropriately to any allegations, reports or suspicions of abuse. Paid staff and volunteers will endeavour to work together to encourage the development of an ethos which embraces difference and diversity and respects the rights of children, young people and adults. Set out below are some of the principles by which Ashtead Gymnastics ensure the welfare of all students.

#### STUDENTS:

All students will be treated equally, and their dignity maintained. No form of unfair discrimination will be tolerated.

No form of bullying will be tolerated by. If established, those found to be bullying others will be subject to appropriate sanctions.

Any and all suspicions and/or allegations of abuse will be taken seriously, responded to swiftly and dealt with appropriately. The partners will refer relevant child protection concerns to the statutory child protection agencies (i.e. Police and/or Children's Social Care).

The wellbeing and safety of students takes precedence over all other factors and aims in regards to tuition.

Ashtead Gymnastics hold details of a primary contact for each student, who is usually be a parent/guardian/carer for said student. It is with this primary contact only that Ashtead Gymnastics liaise with in regards to said student. Any other individuals wishing to liaise with Ashtead Gymnastics in regards to said student, the primary contact would need to confirm, in writing, that permission is given to do so.

All students attending each class will be detailed on a register which will be on the premises throughout the class. They will be counted in at the beginning, and counted out at the end, to ensure they are accounted for throughout their time on the premises.

No student will be allowed to leave the premises until collected by a parent, guardian or other adult authorised to do so by a parent or guardian unless of an age to do so. A member of staff will remain on the premises until all pupils have left.

No student will be photographed or videoed without the consent of the primary contact.

A register of all students and emergency contact details will be available to staff at all times to ensure the welfare of the students.

#### STAFF:

All staff at Ashtead Gymnastics understand their legal and moral responsibility to protect students from harm, abuse and exploitation.

All staff understand their duty to report concerns that arise about a child or young person to the partners for appropriate action.

The coach has an advanced DBS check and undertakes regular safeguarding training.

No staff will make or maintain contact with any student on social media or equivalent platforms.

Only suitably qualified individuals will be employed in a teaching capacity while any other individual engaged to assist with teaching will only work under the supervision of a qualified member of staff.

All instruction will be geared to the previous experience and abilities of the student(s) and no student will be required to perform movements beyond their capabilities.

Teachers will avoid any unnecessary physical contact with pupils. However, parents should understand that some aspects of teaching involve some proportionate and appropriate contact.

If and only when required, teachers will offer proportionate physical comfort to students who are distressed or upset during classes. Staff will seek the consent of the child prior to any physical contact and the purpose of the contact shall be made clear.

Ashtead Gymnastics will ensure that all members of staff are properly insured against incidents involving public liability and professional negligence insurance.

At all times, all staff will endeavour to keep the highest standards of instruction and behaviour. Ashtead Gymnastics retain the right to discharge from the school any pupil who persistently disrupts the tuition or takes part in or instigates other anti-social behaviour.

In the event of activities “off premises”, staff will regard themselves as being in “loco parentis” and, so far as applicable and within their control, apply the preceding and subsequent guidelines.

#### VENUES:

Ashtead Gymnastics will liaise with venues utilised used to ensure they are free of hazards and fit for use for the purposes of the classes.

At all classes a fully equipped first aid kit will be available if, and when, required.

Angela Price is the dedicated Child Protection/Welfare/Safeguarding Officer and is in charge of ensuring that the safeguarding policy and procedures are adhered to. She can be contacted on: 07757269036

In implementing this child protection policy Ashtead Gymnastics will:

- Communicate to all workers/members their legal and moral responsibility to protect children and young people from harm, abuse and exploitation.
- Communicate to all workers/members/volunteers/members their responsibility to work to the standards that are detailed in the Surrey Safeguarding Children Board and the need to work at all times towards maintaining high standards of practice in protection of children.
- Ensure that all workers/members understand their duty to report concerns that arise about a child or young person, or a worker's conduct towards a child/young person, to the organisation's named person for child protection.
- Ensure that the organisations named person for child protection understands his/her responsibility to refer any child protection concerns to the statutory child protection agencies (i.e. Police and/or Children's Social Care).
- Ensure that any procedures relating to the conduct of workers/members are implemented in a consistent and equitable manner.
- Facilitate opportunities for children and young people to express their ideas and views on a wide range of issues in connection with the service they are provided with and to have access to the organisation's Complaints Procedure.
- Facilitate involvement of parents or carers in the work of the organisation and to make child protection policies and procedures available to them.

This policy will be regularly monitored and will be subject to annual review.

Date: 01/09/25