

# CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER GYMNASTICS CLUB

## Cheltenham & Gloucester Gymnastics Club Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Cheltenham & Gloucester Gymnastics Club has considered its responsibilities to the young people participating in Gymnastics at our premises and within our club very carefully, and has produced the following **Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy** and underpinning procedures in order to set out the standards we wish to uphold in providing activities for children and safeguarding the welfare of children in our care.

Cheltenham & Gloucester Gymnastics Club affiliates to the National Governing Body (British Gymnastics) and the Club recognises the policies of their Governing Body, as set out in British Gymnastics' 'Safeguarding Policy and Procedures'.

### 1. Policy Statement:

Cheltenham & Gloucester Gymnastics Club acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard the welfare of all young people (defined as those under 18) involved in Gymnastics within the club. All young people have a right to protection, and have their particular needs taken into account.

Cheltenham & Gloucester Gymnastics Club will therefore endeavour to ensure the safety and protection of all young people involved with the club through the Child Protection guidelines adopted by the club. It is the responsibility of all adults within the club to assist the club in this endeavour.

### 2. Policy Aims:

- To provide young people with the appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of the club and also help them to enjoy their experience of the sport of gymnastics.
- To reassure parents that their children will receive the best practicable care possible whilst participating in activities within the club.
- To provide support to the club members and volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues and to fulfil their role effectively.

### 3. Principles:

- The welfare of young people is paramount.
- All young people, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, ethnic origin and religious beliefs have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

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- All staff and volunteers working in Gymnastics have a responsibility to report concerns to their club Safeguarding Officer or Welfare Officer.
- Adults – club members, volunteers, coaches, referees and members will be supported to understand their role and responsibility with regard to the duty of care and protection of young people by the club and British Gymnastics.
- Individuals will receive support through education and training, coordinated by the club/British Gymnastics to be aware of and understand best practice and how to manage any welfare or child protection issues that may come to light.
- Cheltenham & Gloucester Gymnastics Club will work in partnership with young people and parents to review and implement child protection and safeguarding procedures.
- Cheltenham & Gloucester Gymnastics Club's policy and procedures are based on the above principles and UK and international legislation and government guidance and take the following into consideration:
  - The Children Act 1989 and 2004.
  - Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.
  - The UN Convention on the Rights of Child.
  - Any subsequent legislation relating to child protection would implicitly be incorporated into this document.

## 4. Responsibilities and Communication:

- Cheltenham & Gloucester Gymnastics Club's Child Protection Policy will be available to all members, parents, staff, volunteers and participants.
- The Policy will be reviewed every three years by the Club and amended as appropriate. Guidance from British Gymnastics will be sought as part of the review process.
- The Club has responsibility for ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented, including referring any appropriate disciplinary action to British Gymnastics as appropriate.
- The Club Safeguarding Officer/Welfare Officer has responsibility for responding to any allegations, concerns or child protection incidents, passing information to the appropriate NGB Safeguarding Officer and informing the appropriate club staff where relevant.
- Parents have a responsibility to work together with the club in implementing procedures and providing their children with the necessary information to keep themselves safe.

## 5. Monitoring and Review

- This policy will be reviewed one year after being introduced and then every three years or in response to significant new legislation.
- The policy will be monitored in partnership with British Gymnastics Procedures.