

Watford Gymnastics safeguarding policy

Watford Gymnastics Club has adopted the British Gymnastics Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy. We are committed to providing a duty of care for all our members.

All coaches and adults work within the guidelines of this document together with BG supporting policies. Watford Gymnastics officials have attended recognised coaching courses, safeguarding and child protection courses and completed a DBS. All members of staff upon appointment received an induction setting out these policies and our expectations.

The Club has a designated, appointed Welfare Officer who has attended safeguarding and protecting children training. Coaches are trained to an appropriate level for the gymnasts they coach and will stay within the restriction of their qualification. They will also ensure a safe environment for the gymnast to train in, reducing the risk of injury to a minimum.

Watford Gymnastics club is committed to ensuring that those working with children and vulnerable adults adopt the best possible practice to ensure the participants and staff's health, safety, and welfare.

Watford Gymnastics club will endeavour to promote the highest standards of care for all members, staff, and officials by:

- The adoption of British Gymnastics Health, Safety and Welfare guidelines.
- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people in our club.
- The appointment of a Welfare team to whom grievances or complaints can be made confidentially.
- Ensuring that coaches and officials have been screened (current DBS) to confirm their suitability to work with children, and ensure they understand their role in safeguarding children in their care.
- Ensuring young people and their parents know where to go for help if they have any concerns.

- Ensuring that grievances/complaints are dealt with promptly and in accordance with the established processes. In addition to this, we ensure all safeguarding concerns are securely maintained and stored.
- Ensuring that there is a minimum of two responsible adults at all training sessions.
- Ensuring that the participants and parents are aware of the purposes of videoing, filming or photography during training or events. All data will be recorded and stored securely in line with data protection laws.
- Having a zero-tolerance level of poor practice, bullying or any other potential form of abuse. Enforcing a strict code of conduct for all members, staff, and coaches.
- Promoting the ongoing training and development of coaches both through British Gymnastics positive coaching schemes, and child protection training.

In addition, the club actively encourages individuals from all communities to become involved in all levels of participation, coaching, officiating and management. All individuals are treated fairly and equally regardless of gender, age, ethnic origin, religion or political persuasion or disability.

This policy is currently reviewed every three years unless there is any change to government guidance or our local safeguarding guidance changes.

Any Child Welfare concerns will be treated with full confidentiality. As part of this policy, we also ensure gymnasts can raise concerns without fear of suffering retribution and we provide a transparent and confidential process for dealing with all concerns.

Please note: This policy and its procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Watford Gymnastics Club. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay.

Welfare Officer: Lysay Shaw Email:- lysay.shaw@gmail.com

For more information please visit the British Gymnastics website <https://www.british-gymnastics.org/gymnasts/gymnast-membership/safeguarding-and-compliance>