



Community at the heart of excellence

### **Stockport School of Gymnastics Welfare Policy**

Stockport School of Gymnastics subscribes to the principles of safeguarding and protecting children and vulnerable adults and aims to ensure that anyone participating at our gymnastics club can do so in a safe and child friendly environment.

Stockport School of Gymnastics recognises its legal obligations under The Childrens Act 1989 and will fulfil these through adopting the requirements of the British Gymnastics Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy.

The Board of Stockport School of Gymnastics endorses this Policy and will promote policy adherence at all levels in the organisation, ensuring resources and time are made available to support policy implementation

The welfare of children [anyone up to the age of 18 yrs.] or anyone deemed to be a vulnerable adult is paramount. All children, regardless of ability, age, disability, sexual orientation, parental status, race, religion or belief or social/economic background have a right to be protected from abuse.

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is everyone's responsibility – every individual within the organisation, must play their part in ensuring the sport is safe.

A "child-centred approach" gymnastics provision will better meet the needs of children if it is informed by a clear understanding of the needs and view of children.

### **Welfare Responsibilities.**

**Stockport School of Gymnastics will promote the highest standards and will:**

- Promote the welfare of members & the importance of safeguarding.
- Ensure that everyone understands their roles & responsibilities in respect of safeguarding.
- Ensure robust systems are in place to manage any concerns or allegations.
- Respond to child protection and poor practice concerns.
- Liaise with British Gymnastics, other agencies & local statutory organisations as required.
- Ensure staff can recognise, identify, & respond to signs of abuse, neglect & other safeguarding concerns relating to children, young people or vulnerable adults.
- Ensure SSoG staff complete Safeguarding training every three years.

- Ensure staff have appropriate pre-recruitment checks & have the appropriate coach qualifications to the level of the skills being coached.
- Support whistle blowing and take steps to ensure members, their parents / carers and others feel able to raise concerns without fear of negative repercussions.
- Appoint a Welfare Officer to assure this policy is adopted & implemented through quality procedures and maintained.

**The Welfare Officer will promote the highest standards and will:**

Guide the Board, Management team and Coaching team to plan, prioritise and implement the necessary safeguarding responsibilities and activities,

- Develop a workforce and volunteer base within the club who are skilled and competent in safeguarding practices.
- Ensure young people and their parents /carers are consulted and where appropriate fully involved in decisions that affect them.
- Liaise with outside agencies and local statutory organisations as required.
- Maintain confidentiality in relation to concerns and referrals and share information only on an informed 'need to know' basis.
- Attended BG approved Safeguarding training and Time to Listen Courses [every three years]
- Hold minimum bronze BG membership and undertake a DBS check.

The Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy will be regularly reviewed by the Welfare Officer, updated, as necessary and re-approved by Board.

Updated by Beverley Conroy Welfare Officer 29/03/2023