



Child Protection Policy Statement

The Star Martial Arts will endeavour at all times through its provision of events and activities to:

- Promote the welfare, health and full development of children and protect them from all forms of harm.
- Recognise that children have rights as individuals and treat them with dignity and respect.
- Raise awareness about what children are entitled to be protected from, plan events and activities so as to minimize opportunities for the children taking part to suffer harm.
- Develop effective procedures for responding to alleged or suspected incidents of abuse.
- A child is defined as anyone who is under the age of 16 years.

Protecting children and volunteers

To reduce the likelihood of a situation arising where abuse of a child may occur and to help protect the volunteers from false accusations of abuse, everyone should be aware of the following guidelines.

As a general rule it is not sensible to:

- Spend time alone with a child away from others.
- To take a child alone on a car journey, however short.
- Take a child to their home.
- Where these occasions arise and when they are unavoidable, they should occur only with the full knowledge and consent of the child's parent / guardian.



Volunteers should not:

- Leave a child alone with someone else.
- Be alone with the child in the changing room.
- Treat a child for an injury alone or away from others.
- Allow children to use inappropriate language unchallenged.
- Let allegations a child makes go unchallenged or unrecorded.

Finally,

- Volunteers will, where it is deemed necessary, be police checked.
- Star Martial Arts will have a member on the committee who will handle any issues of child protection as it relates to policy and procedures, guided by the NSPCC Protection Committee.
- Members of the Star Martial Arts committee, instructors, assistant instructors and volunteers will sign to say that they have read, understand and will comply with the details of this child protection policy statement.