



Child Protection Policy

Budokai Martial Arts fully recognises its responsibilities for child protection.

Our policy applies to all staff and instructors working within the school environment. There are five main elements to our policy:


- Ensuring we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and instructors to work with children.
- Raising awareness of child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe.
- Developing and then implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse.
- Supporting pupils who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan.
- Establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.

We recognise that because of the day to day contact with children, our instructors are well placed to observe the outward signs of abuse. Budokai Martial Arts will therefore:

- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to.
- Ensure children know that there are adults in the school whom they can approach if they are worried.
- Include opportunities in the training syllabus for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse.

We will follow the procedures set out by the Local Safeguarding Children Board and take account of guidance issued by the Department for Education and Skills to:

- Ensure we have a designated senior person for child protection who has received appropriate training and support for this role.
- Ensure we have a nominated senior instructor responsible for child protection.
- Ensure every member of staff (including temporary and supply staff and volunteers) and governing body knows the name of the designated senior person responsible for child protection and their role.
- Ensure all staff and instructors understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated senior person responsible for child protection.



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- Ensure that parents have an understanding of the responsibility placed on Budokai Martial Arts and instructors for child protection by setting out its obligations in the training syllabus.
- Develop effective links with relevant agencies and co-operate as required with their enquiries regarding child protection matters including attendance at case conferences.
- Keep written records of concerns about children, even where there is no need to refer the matter immediately.
- Ensure all records are kept securely; separate from the main student file, and in locked locations.

Develop and then follow procedures where an allegation is made against a member of staff or instructor.

Ensure safe recruitment practices are always followed.

We recognise that children who are abused or witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self worth. They may feel helplessness, humiliation and some sense of blame. The karate club may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of children at risk. When at the karate club their behaviour may be challenging and defiant or they may be withdrawn. The club instructors will endeavour to support the pupil through:

- The content of the training syllabus.
- The ethos of Budokai Martial Arts which promotes a positive, supportive and secure environment and gives students a sense of being valued.
- Budokai Martial Arts behaviour policy which is aimed at supporting vulnerable students in the karate club. Budokai Martial Arts will ensure that the student knows that some behaviour is unacceptable but they are valued and not to be blamed for any abuse which has occurred.
- Liaison with other agencies that support the student such as social services, Child and Adult Mental Health Service, education welfare service and educational psychology service.
- Ensuring that, where a student on the child protection register leaves, their information is transferred to the new school or club immediately and that the child's social worker is informed