Combined Defensive Arts

Child Safeguarding Policy Statement

Note: The term 'children' or 'child' describes any person under the age of 18.

Our Statement

**Combined Defensive Arts** acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children:

* have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at Combined Defensive Arts in a safe and child centered environment
* are protected from abuse whilst participating in the kickboxing and self defence classes or on the premises

**Combined Defensive Arts** acknowledges that some children, including disabled children and young people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

Our Policy

As part of our safeguarding policy we will:

* Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
* Value, listen to and respect children
* Ensure robust safeguarding arrangement and procedures are in operation
* Adopt safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and code of conduct for staff
* Ensure staff understand their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse and neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
* Provide effective management for staff through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about our policies, procedures and behaviour codes and follow them confidently and competently
* Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of all incidents or concerns, both lower-level and concerns of abuse, and support provided to the individual(s) who raise or disclose the concern
* Ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored. If no longer required, they shall be destroyed after 1 year.
* Record and store information securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance
* Prevent the employment or deployment of unsuitable individuals by recruiting and selecting staff safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
* Appoint a nominated safeguarding lead for children and young people
* Share information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their parents/caregivers as everyone has a role to play in the safeguarding of children
* Make sure that children, young people and their parents/caregivers know where to go for help if they have a concern

**Policy and procedures will be promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Combined Defensive Arts. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the organisation.**

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or if there is a change in legislation and/or government guidance or as a result of any other significant change or event.