



Humber Martial Arts

Safeguarding – Policy

Club Safeguarding Policy

Last Updated: 01-JAN-2022

Review Due: 01-JAN-2023

This document must be reviewed no less than once per year.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to set out how Humber Martial Arts (H.M.A) protects children and young person's /and or/ adults at risk from harm during their training within the club. This includes harm arising from abuse of all kinds, including sexual, physical and emotional abuse, neglect, bullying and any other forms of violence or exploitation.

This policy lays out Humber Martial Arts responsibilities and the reporting mechanisms, to ensure that H.M.A instructors, students, parents/guardians and members of the public are confident reporting a concern and, for H.M.A instructors, to take appropriate action.

To be clear, Safeguarding is defined as *"protecting a persons' health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect"*. In martial arts, this will typically apply to children and young persons, and adults at risk.

Scope Of This Policy

This policy shall be effective and mandatory for all instructors, volunteers, visiting instructors. This policy shall also be effective for all visitors and parents of Humber Martial Arts students.

Policy Statement

Humber Martial Arts believes that everyone we come into contact with, regardless of age, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation or ethnic origin has the right to be protected from all forms of harm, abuse, neglect and exploitation. Humber Martial Arts will not tolerate abuse and exploitation by staff or associated personnel. Humber Martial Arts remains committed to ensuring the effective prevention, reporting and response to any safeguarding concerns raised or detected.

Prevention

In order to provide vulnerable groups with the best possible experience and opportunities within its classes, Humber Martial Arts operates a core prevention strategy is to ensure that the following is met in terms of minimum best practice guidance at all times:

- Instructors must always hold the minimum grade required to deliver the class competently and technically in question, with additional qualifications as necessary for specialist styles or roles.
- Instructors must all hold the necessary Public Liability insurance, a valid first aid qualification and both an enhanced DBS check within 3 years from date of issue, and an in-date safeguarding qualification relevant to the group(s) being taught.
- Treat all young persons aged under 18 years of age, and all vulnerable adults, with respect, dignity and courtesy.
- Treat all children and / or vulnerable adults equally.
- Always put the welfare of children and / or vulnerable adults first.
- Always work in an open environment avoiding any isolation, encouraging an open and transparent club community.
- Keep physical contact to an absolute minimum.
- Where physical contact is essential as part of the safe and structured learning process of the art, the instructor and/or teaching person must remain professional and appropriate at all times. Ensuring that any physical contact is essential for example, when assisting with a technique or for safety reasons.
- Not take photographs, videos or create any other forms of media featuring any children and / or vulnerable adults without written consent from the carer, guardian or parents in advance. **See H.M.A Registration and disclosure form.**
- Ensure that if the club embarks on any extra-curricular activities, safeguarding of children and / or vulnerable adults shall remain a top priority and furthermore, if classes are mixed in gender, both a vetted male and female member of the club must be present when out of the dojo.
- Remain an excellent role model both in and out of the dojo. This includes not smoking, drinking alcohol or using any foul language in front of any children and / or vulnerable adults.
- Ensure that any contact via social media or other digital formats are recorded and minimised. No instructor and/or club official should have any communication with children and / or vulnerable adults via any forms of social media for any purposes other than class related information.
- Recognise the development needs and capacity of the children and / or vulnerable adults in the class and not risk sacrificing welfare or safety for the club or instructor's personal gain.
- In relation to the above this also means avoiding excessive training and / or competitions and not pushing the student if they are not fully confident.

- Secure written parental consent for the club to act in loco parentis, to give permission for the administration of emergency first aid or other medical treatment if the need arises, ensuring medical conditions and pre-existing injuries and allergies are recorded. **See H.M.A Registration and disclosure form.**
- Keep thorough records of any injuries or near misses that have occurred, along with details of any treatment given and further communication had with parents / guardians and/or children and / or vulnerable adults.

Raising Concerns or Making a Disclosure

Humber Martial Arts will always ensure that in any case where a child or vulnerable adult might directly confide to any form of abuse, that the club **must** take **immediate** steps to safeguard that person effectively. Where concerns are raised by a third party, or by suspicions held by the instructor or club, the below checklist shall be maintained wherever possible but, in all instances, the club will escalate and report in full on all occasions.

If a child or vulnerable adults indicates that they are being abused, the instructor to whom the disclosure is made will:

- **stay calm** so as not to frighten the child or vulnerable adult.
- **reassure** the child or vulnerable adult that they are not to blame and that it was right to inform.
- **listen** to the child or vulnerable adult, showing that they are being taken seriously.
- **keep questions to a minimum** so that there is a clear and accurate understanding of what has been said. The law is very strict and child / vulnerable adult abuse cases have been dismissed where it is felt that the child or vulnerable adult has been led or words and ideas have been suggested during questioning. Accordingly, the instructor must only ask questions to clarify details – not to question further.
- **inform** the child or vulnerable adult that the instructor will have to inform other people about what they have disclosed. The instructor must ensure the child or vulnerable adult understands this is in confidence, on a needs-must basis and is to help stop the abuse continuing.
- **safety of the child or vulnerable adult** is paramount. If the child or vulnerable adult needs urgent medical attention, the instructor will call an ambulance, inform the doctors of the concern and ensure they are made aware that this is a child protection / safeguarding issue.
- **record** all information – Using H.M.A Safeguarding Disclosure Form
- **report** the incident to the club/safeguarding officer and to the *Local Area Designated Officer (LADO)* without delay. LADO contact on Page 5 of this policy.

If the instructor / club is not clear on what action is required and there is a real or immediate threat to the child or vulnerable adult, they should contact the Police on 999.

NSPCC

24-hour helpline number: 0808 800 5000

Email: help@nspcc.org.uk

Key Contacts

Key contacts for Humber Martial Arts are as follows:

Chief Instructor

Mr. Darren Munro

Email: humbermartialarts@yahoo.com

Phone: 07411373240

Safeguarding Lead Officer

Mr. Darren Munro

Email: humbermartialarts@yahoo.com

Phone: 07411373240

If you are not confident raising your concerns with us, you can also raise immediate safeguarding concerns or complaints to our association, the British Martial Arts & Boxing Association (BMABA) for a confidential and professional response. The BMABA's lead safeguarding details are available below:

BMABA National Designated Safeguarding Lead: **Kirsty Hawkins**

Telephone Number: **01798 306546 (ext. 201)**

E-Mail: safeguarding@bmaba.org.uk

If there are immediate concerns for the safety of a child or adult at risk, please call the police on 999. Should you not be confident raising your concerns for a non-immediate danger with us or our association, the contact details for the Local Area Designated Officer (LADO) can be found below.

LADO CONTACT DETAILS

North East Lincolnshire County Council

Phone 01472 326118

Website: www.safernel.co.uk

The Lead then notifies the LADO as soon as possible (within 1 working day). Although the practitioner should discuss with their Safeguarding Lead, it is ultimately their own responsibility to ensure that the concern is shared appropriately.

If unable to contact the LADO on the above number, then a call should be made to Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01472 326292.