



# Safeguarding Children Policy

Junior Sport Stars acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidelines and complies with best practice and OFSTED requirements.

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

- have a positive and enjoyable experience in all of Junior Sport Stars' sessions and classes in a safe, secure and child-centered environment.
- are protected from all forms of abuse whilst participating with Junior Sport Stars.

Junior Sport Stars acknowledges that some children and young people are particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure that their welfare is at the forefront of everything that we do.

As part of our safeguarding policy Junior Sport Stars will:

- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.
- Ensure that everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people.
- Ensure that appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/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.
- Prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals through our strict 'Hiring Policy' and through Enhanced DBS checks before work commences.
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.
- Ensure that all of Junior Sport Stars' staff have attended training on safeguarding children and young people on an annual basis.

The policies and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved with Junior Sport Stars. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation and further action if necessary.

## Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually or if there are any changes in circumstances such as changes to legislation or OFSTED requirements or other circumstances.

**Designated Safeguarding and welfare Lead:** Anthony McDonald (Manager)

**Gymnastics Safeguarding and Welfare officer:** Samantha Sauco (volunteer)

Junior Sport Stars Ltd recognises that they must take necessary precautions in order to safeguard the children in their care and necessary steps to protect staff from incidents/accusations.

Junior Sport Stars has a number of policies to protect the children in their care and its staff:

- Mobile Phone policy- Only the Head Coach is to have a mobile phone on site. This is to be used in emergencies only and is to be stored safely. Mobile phones are not permitted unless they have permission and necessary checks must be taken (see 'Mobile phone' policy). Any staff member not adhering to this policy will be subjected to a disciplinary hearing.
- Photos/videos policy- Occasionally Junior Sport Stars' staff may take photos/videos to be used for promotional material and social media. Written consent is needed from all parents who give permission for their child/ren to be on the photos/videos. Any child/children who have not had permission will not be allowed on any photos/videos and a clearly visible sticker is given to ensure this happens.
- Two staff minimum policy- Junior Sport Stars' staff are not permitted to be alone in a setting or area where they cannot be viewed with a child/group of children. The only exception is in a school setting with school staff on hand in case of an accident/emergency. When walking children to the toilet, wait outside until they are done. If the child needs assistance, ask for assistance from one of the other Coaches.
- Training and learning policy- All Junior Sport Stars' staff are to attend training on safeguarding children and young people annually.
- Technology/social media policy- All Junior Sport Stars' staff must not use social media or any other technology that could potentially build private relationships with others. All staffs' personal social media accounts must be set to 'private'.

If a child discloses any information relating to abuse/neglect all Junior Sport Stars' staff are to:

- Reassure the child and let them speak openly.
- Record the account as quickly as possible, stating facts only and what was said by both parties.
- Let the child know that they may have to tell someone about what they have disclosed.
- Contact Junior Sport Stars' Safeguarding Officer (Anthony McDonald), immediately, who will decide on the appropriate action. If in a school setting, contact the Head Teacher/lead safeguarding officer if available.

### **Concerns**

If you have concerns about the welfare of a child or the behaviour of one of the Coaches or any visitor to any of our settings then ask to speak, discreetly, to our Safeguarding and welfare Officer, Anthony McDonald. Or, alternatively, you can voice your concerns with the 'Safeguarding children in Stockport' team on 0161 217 6028 (out of hours – 0161 718 2118).

Failure to comply with Junior Sport Stars' 'Safeguarding policy' can and will result in disciplinary proceedings. Junior Sport Stars Ltd will review the policy annually and make staff aware of any changes to the policy.

**Date: 30/7/2025**

**Policy written by: Ant McDonald & Rick Barron**

**To be reviewed by: 30/7/2026**

JSS Education & Childcare LLP (trading as Junior Sport Stars)  
Sunaco House, Bletchley Road, Heaton Mersey, Stockport. SK4 3EF  
0161 222 5676  
info@juniorsportstars.co.uk