



# Safeguarding Policy

This policy outlines the commitment Jack Attack Sport's has to ensuring to building a culture of safety for the children in our care are protected from abuse, harm and radicalisation.

Jack Attack Sport's will respond promptly and appropriately to all incidents or concerns regarding the safety of a child that may occur. This policy complies with all legislation.

There will be a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) available at all times whilst clubs are in session. The DSL will coordinate any safeguarding and child protection issue and liaise with external agencies i.e Ofsted and Social Care.

Jack Attack Sport's designated DSL is Jack McSweeney. The Deputy is Zoe Tilbury.

## **Child abuse and neglect**

Child abuse is any form of physical, emotion or sexual mistreatment or lack of care that leads to injury or harm. An individual may abuse or neglect a child directly or by failing to protect them from harm. Some types of child abuse and neglect include:

**Emotional abuse:** Persistent emotional maltreatment of a child so as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. This may involve making the child feel like they are unloved, inadequate or worthless. However emotional abuse can involve all types of maltreatment of a child, and it may occur alone.

**Physical abuse:** this involves hitting, shaking, throwing, burning, poisoning, drowning, suffocating or other causes physically harming a child. It can also be caused when parent/guardians feign symptom or deliberately causes ill health to a child

**Sexual abuse:** this involves forcing or enticing a child to participate in sexual activities regardless if they know or is aware what is happening. This can also include physical contact and non contact activities i.e showing children sexual activities or encouraging them to behave in inappropriate ways sexually.

**Neglect:** This is the continuous failure to meet a child's basic physical and emotional needs; these can include the failure to provide clothing, shelter, adequate food, to be able to protect a child from physical or emotional harm, adequate supervision of the minor and to allow them access to medical care

## **Signs of child abuse and neglect**

Signs that a child is experiencing abuse or neglect may include:

- Changes in the child's behaviour
- Deterioration in the child's general well being
- Bruising or marks that cannot be explained
- Comments made by the child that gives a cause for concern
- Reasons to suspect neglect or abuse outside the setting i.e the child has been a witness to abuse
- Inappropriate behaviour displayed by a staff member or another person i.e inappropriate sexual comments or inappropriate sharing of images



### **What happens if abuse is suspected or disclosed**

When a child discloses any information to a member of staff, they will:

- Reassure that they are not blame and they did the right thing speaking out
- Listen to the child without questioning them
- Record the incident and refer it back to the DSL

If a member of staff was to witness or suspect any type of abuse; this will be recorded straight away and referred to the DSL. If there is a third party who wishes to express their concern; we would encourage them to contact Social Services directly. If they wish not to do this, we will explain that we have a legal obligation to report any incident and log.

### **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)**

Female Genital Mutilation is illegal and a form of child abuse. Therefore, if we suspect; this will be dealt with as part of our Safeguarding Procedure. All staff will received adequate training.

### **What will happen if FGM is suspected or disclosed.**

At Jack Attack Sport's we will follow the same procedure set out above.

### **Peer-on-peer abuse**

Children are vulnerable to abuse their peers. If any of our staff suspect or witness any peer-on-peer abuse this will be dealt with seriously and be the subject to the same child protection procedures as any other form of abuse. Jack attack Sport's staff are aware of the potential uses of technology for bullying and abusive behaviour amongst children.

Staff will not dismiss abusive behaviour and the presence of one or more of the following within relationships between children will always trigger any concerns about the possibility of peer-on-peer abuse:

- Sexual activity (within primary school aged children) including sexting
- One of the children is significantly more dominant than the other (much older)
- One of the children is significantly more vulnerable than the other (disability, confidence or physical strength)
- There has been the use of threats, bribes or coercion to ensure compliance or secrecy.

### **What will happen if FGM is suspected or disclosed.**

At Jack Attack Sport's we will follow the same procedure set out above.

### **Extremism and radicalisation**

Within all childcare settings we have a legal duty to protect children from the risk of radicalisation and being drawn into extremism. There are many reason why a child may be vulnerable to radicalisation:

- Feeling alone or alienated
- Seeking a sense of identity or individuality
- Suffering from mental health issues
- Desire for adventure or wanting to be part of a larger cause
- Associating with others who hold extremist beliefs

### **Signs of radicalisation**

There are many that a chid may be a risk of radicalisation:

- changes in behaviour such as being withdrawn or aggressive
- stating that terrorist attacks and violence are justified
- viewing violent extremist material online



- possessing or sharing violent extremist material

If one of our members of staff suspect that there is a child who is at risk of becoming radicalised, they will record this stating any relevant information and observations a Safeguarding Log form and referred to the DSL.

### **Logging a concern**

All information about any suspected abuse or disclosure or concern about radicalisation will be recorded on the Safeguarding Log form as soon as possible. Information required:

- date the disclosure/incident/observation causing concern
- date and time in which the record was made
- the name and date of birth of the child involved
- a report of what happened, if staff are logging a disclosure, they are to use the child's own words
- name, job title and signature of the member off making the log.

The log must then be given to the DSL; who will then look and decide on the appropriate course of action. If the concern relates to child abuse the DSL will contact Social Care, who will the follow up any referrals within 48 hours. If a member of staff does not feel like the incident has been dealt with correctly, they may contact Social Care directly. For more serious concerns the DSL may contact the police on the non-emergency number (101) or the anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789 321. For urgent concerns the DSL will contact the Police using 999.

### **Allegations against staff**

If there was an allegation of child abuse again a member of staff; we would follow the below steps:

- report the allegation on the Safeguarding Log form. Any witnesses to the incident should sign and date to confirm entry
- the allegation must be reported to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and to Ofsted. The LADO will the advise if any other agencies i.e the police would need to be informed. Jack Attack Sports will then act upon their advice. Any phone reports to the LADO should be followed up within 48 hours in writing
- Follow advice from the LADO, we may suspend the member of staff pending a full investigation
- If it is appropriate, we may make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service
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### **Promoting awareness amongst staff**

At Jack Attack Sport's we will promote awareness of child abuse and the risk radicalisation through training. We will ensure that:

- The designated DSL will have the relevant experience and where necessary receive the appropriate training in Safeguarding, Prevent Duty and be aware of the Channel Programme and how to access it
- The designated person will have their training refreshed every 2 years
- Safe recruitment practices are followed by all staff
- All staff and visitors will have access to this Safeguarding Policy, understand the contents and vigilant to abuse, neglect or radicalisation
- All staff will receive basic training in the Prevent Duty
- All staff will receive basic training in Safeguarding, this will also be a topic in all meetings



### **Use of mobile phones and cameras**

Photographs will only be taken if we hold the parent/guardian's permission. Staff members, visitors nor the children may use their mobile phones during the session. Please see our Mobile Phone policy for more information.

### **Useful Contact numbers / email addresses**

All concerns regarding immediate child protection should be made by telephone to:

Police: 101 (non-emergency) or 999 (emergency)

Anti-terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321

NSPCC: 0808 800 500