

Document Control

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| Document Version | 1.00 | |
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| Date of Approval | 11/08/2022 | |
| Key changes | None | Initial Draft |
| Review Date | 11/08/2023 | Yearly |

SRKA Children's Safeguarding Policy – Key Highlights

This policy is binding and provides procedures and guidance to everyone within SRKA, whether working in a voluntary or professional capacity. It is fully understood that all sporting organisations that make provision for children and young people must ensure that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity, have the right to protection from abuse.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- All staff (paid or unpaid) working in sport have a responsibility to report concerns to the appropriate officer.

SRKA has a duty of care to safeguard all children involved in all forms of Karate from harm. All children have a right to protection, the needs of disabled children and others who may be particularly vulnerable must be taken into account. As such SRKA will strive to ensure the safety and protection of all children involved in our sport through adherence to the Child Protection guidelines. The policy is applicable to all clubs within SRKA.

SRKA's expectation of club members:

It is SRKA's Safeguarding Teams decision that all affiliated clubs will comply with the requirements as laid out below. Help and support to achieve this is available from the SRKA Safeguarding Team.

SRKA will comply with the following:

- Have a Child Protection Officer for the Association
- The named person will have their contact details displayed on the SRKA website (e-mail address and telephone number).

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- Safeguarding Team to attend official Child Protection/Safeguarding training every 3 years
- Ensure club coaches and instructors are compliant with DBS requirements by keeping and monitoring accurate records
- Have a clear Child Safeguarding policy document in line with the Safeguarding Code in Martial Arts
- The policy will include clear systems and processes for how concerns are received, processed and managed
- The policy will make reference to the SRKA Safeguarding Team and how to refer a concern accordingly.
- Have a safeguarding referral form displayed on the website

Categories of abuse:

There are 4 categories of abuse. These include:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse (including bullying)
- Neglect
- Sexual abuse

Common signs of abuse

- Distrustful of a particular adult
- Unexplained injuries
- Deterioration in physical appearance
- Pains, itching, bruising, or bleeding near genital area.
- A change in the child's general behaviour e.g. withdrawn or aggressive
- Inappropriate sexual awareness or behaviour for their age.

Some disabled children may not be able to communicate verbally re: abuse

Safeguarding and overnight trips for training or competitions

It will be the responsibility of the person tasked with organising accommodation to contact the venue before booking to ascertain what the in policy is on children staying in their own room.

When booking accommodation under no circumstances should an adult (aged 18+) who is not the parent/guardian or carer share a room with a child. Children of a similar age and of the same sex are permitted to share a hotel room but must not share a bed. It is also advisable that there is an adult supervisor situated in an adjacent or nearby room.

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Before an overnight stay is planned there should be adequate paperwork produced in order to provide to the parents and children involved which should give them as much information about the trip as possible

Photography Policy

SRKA will be vigilant with any concerns to be reported to a SRKA Child Protection Officer. Any parent who wishes to photograph their child must seek permission from the instructor or competition organiser. Official photographers must be registered with the event organiser.

Prevent

SRKA recognise that the principles of the Governing Body and of karate itself - including teamwork, respect, discipline and sportsmanship - can act as fundamental building blocks to preventing radicalisation at every level. This in turn allows children from diverse backgrounds to reach their full potential within the sport. Any imminent threat of terrorism should be passed on to the police immediately.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

FGM is the practice of intentionally damaging or removing external female genitalia. This is practiced within cultural contexts and affects mainly African and Middle Eastern regions.

Children may be removed from training for a period of time and taken abroad to a high risk country by a relative. This is often one of the first indications that FGM is to take place.

If FGM is suspected this **HAS** to be reported to the authorities under UK legislation.

Practices to be avoided during classes

Nature of the class must be tailored to consider these factors:

- Children should be carefully matched for size and weight for partner work.
- Great care must be taken, especially where children train in the proximity of adults, to avoid collision injury.
- Children should not participate in full head contact during sparring or partner work – there is a proven scientific link with research undertaken surrounding concussion.

Reporting concerns

It is not the responsibility of anyone working in SRKA, in a paid or unpaid capacity to decide whether or not child abuse has taken place. This is the role of the child

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protection agencies. However, there is a responsibility for all involved in SRKA to act on any concerns through contact with the appropriate authorities.

Any suspicion that a child has been abused by either a member of staff or a volunteer should be reported to the Child Protection Officer, who will take such steps as considered necessary to ensure the safety of the child in question and any other child who may be at risk.

Every effort should be made to ensure that confidentiality is maintained for all concerned. Information should be handled and disseminated on a need to know basis only

GDPR

The Safeguarding Team of SRKA will, as part of their work, collect personal data and therefore GDPR will apply. SRKA therefore has a requirement to process, store and share data in accordance with the new rules. The SRKA Safeguarding Team and Association Welfare Officers are mandated by law to share information with relevant authorities when the child is in danger of being abused or is currently being abused. This sharing of information is permitted under GDPR and DPA.