

# Russell Perks Martial Arts Academy

## Safeguarding Policy Statement

Russell Perks Martial Arts Academy (RPMAA) is committed to ensuring all Children (i.e all persons under the age of 18) participating in martial arts have a safe and positive experience.

We will do this by:-

- Recognising all children participating in martial arts with RPMAA (regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability or disability) have the right to learn, have fun and be protected from harm in a safe environment
  - Ensuring individuals working within RPMAA at, or for, our club provide a welcoming, safe, and fun experience for children
  - Appointing an Academy Welfare Officer and ensuring they attend all current and future training modules required by the RPMAA,
  - Ensuring all people who work in RPMAA at, or for, our club (such as staff, officials, volunteers, team managers, coaches and so on) have a responsibility for safeguarding children, and understand how this applies to them
  - Ensuring all individuals working within RPMAA at, or for, the club are recruited and appointed in accordance with RPMAA guidelines and relevant legislation
  - Ensuring all individuals working within RPMAA at, or for, the club are provided with support, through education and training, so they are aware of, and can adhere to, good practice and Code of Conduct guidelines defined by the RPMAA, and the club
  - Ensuring the name and contact details of the Academy Welfare Officer is available:-
    - As the first point of contact for parents, children and volunteers/staff within the Academy
    - As a local source of procedural advice for the Academy, its committee and members
    - As the main point of contact within the Academy for relevant external agencies in connection with child safeguarding
- Ensuring correct and comprehensive reporting procedures exist for raising and managing child safeguarding concerns.
- Providing an environment where the views of children, parents and volunteers are sought and welcomed on a range of issues. This will help us create an environment where people have the opportunity to voice any concerns (about possible suspected child abuse/neglect, and/or about poor practice) to the Academy Welfare Officer.
  - Ensuring all suspicions concerns and allegations are taken seriously and dealt with swiftly and appropriately
  - Ensuring access to confidential information relating to child safeguarding matters is restricted to those who need to know in order to safeguard children – including the Academy Welfare Officer and the appropriate external authorities, such as the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO).