

# **Safeguarding Policy**

# **DOCUMENT DETAILS**

Document Reference Power GT Safeguarding Policy

Version 2.0

Issue Date July 2025
Review Date July 2026

Document Author / Owner Charlotte Cunningham / Power Gymnastics Trampoline

Applicability All users and employees of Power GT

## **VERSION HISTORY**

Version	Date	Reason for release / version update	Issued by
1.0	June 2024	Creation of documentation	Charlotte Cunningham
2.0	July 2025	Addition of new club welfare officer	Charlotte Cunningham



Wheelers Lane



**POWER** 

Power GT aims to produce happy, motivated, and confident athletes by providing a disciplined and inclusive programme.

# **Key Contact Information**

Welfare Officer: Faye Owen

Contact Email: pgtsafeguardingandwelfare@outlook.com

Contact Number: 07828848763

Name: Joanne Lester O'Keeffe

**Email Address:** pgtsafeguardingandwelfare@outlook.com

Contact Number: 07847742629





Governing Body (and external contact): British Gymnastics Contact

Email: safeguarding@british-gymnastics.org Contact

Number: 0345 129 7129

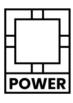
This policy will be made available to all parents on request and is available on the club website. This policy applies to all staff, governors, and volunteers of the club. It also applies to gymnasts within the club.

Safeguarding and promoting welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best possible outcome

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promotes welfare. This refers to the activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or are likely to suffer, significant harm.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and anyone can make a referral to external agencies.



#### **External Contacts:**

British Gymnastics	Contact Email: safeguarding@british-gymnastics.org
Safeguarding Team	Contact Number: 0345 129 7129
Local Authority Designated	Email: Ladoteam@birminghamchildrentrust.co.uuk
Officers (LADO)	Contact Number: 0121 675 1669
Police Public Protection Unit:	
24 hours non-emergency Emergency	Contact Number: 101
	Contact Number: 999
NSPCC Helpline	0808 027 0285

#### The five main elements of our policy:

- Ensuring we practice safer recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children;
- Raising awareness of child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe i.e. teaching them when to recognise when they are at risk and how to get help when they need it;
- Developing and then implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse;
- Establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.
- Ensuring we keep the safe environment to allow gymnasts to love the sport of gymnastics.

### Power GT aims to:

- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel safe, secure, valued and respected and are encouraged to talk, believing they will be listened to;
- Ensuring children know that there are adults within the club who they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty;
- Operate safer recruitment procedures and make sure that all appropriate checks are carried out on new staff and volunteers who will work with children including identity, right to work, enhanced DBS criminal record and barred list (and oversees where needed)

Operating Address: Billesley Tennis Centre

Wheelers Lane



**POWER** 

All coaches and volunteers at Power GT will undergo safeguarding training every 2 years, in line with British Gymnastics requirements. Training will include:

- Information relating to signs and symptoms of abuse;
- How to maintain a disclosure from a child;
- When and how to record a concern and about the welfare of a child;
- Advice on safe working practice.

The designated Welfare Officer will undergo additional Safeguarding training including the time to listen course. All coaches, volunteers and regular visitors will be told where this policy is kept, given the name of the Welfare officers, and be kept informed of the club's reporting procedures.

## Responsibilities

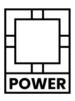
#### Parent / Guardians

To ensure Power GT can uphold it's five main elements within this policy, we ask that the parent/guardians of the participant <u>MUST</u> be present for the drop off & collection of the gymnasts upon arrival and dismissal except for participants over the age of 16 do not require a parent/guardian upon arrival or dismissal of the session. We also request that parents do not film or photograph their children whilst spectating in the viewing area.

#### Welfare Officer

The welfare officer will coordinate action on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within the club. The welfare officer is associated with Power GT but not part of the main coaching team. They are responsible for:

- Providing a mechanism to ensure that all staff and volunteers understand and can discharge their role and responsibilities of safeguarding children;
- Maintaining a confidential record of safeguarding concerns raised by any associates with Power GT and deciding on appropriate actions;
- Ensuring all child protection documents are kept securely, separately from Power GT's main files, and in locked/password protected locations;
- Providing advice for staff and volunteers who have received disclosures from any young person associated with the club;
- Develop effective links with relevant agencies and professionals and co-operate as required within their enquiries regarding safeguarding matters;
- Ensure that grievances or complaints are dealt with promptly and in accord with the grievance / complaints procedure.



## Main Coaching Staff and Volunteers

Main coaching staff and volunteers are responsible for safeguarding any child within Power GT's care. They are responsible for:

- Providing a safe and secure environment where children feel valued and respected and are encouraged to talk,
   believing they will be listened to;
- Ensuring children know that there are adults within the club who they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty;
- Pass any concerns to the welfare officer in the form of a safeguarding report or email;
- Ensuring that the best coaching practice guidelines are followed at all times;
- Ensuring that there is minimum of two responsible adults at all training sessions.

#### **Procedure for Managing Concerns**

All staff and volunteers are provided with the following advice when receiving any disclosure:

- Listen carefully to what is said;
- Do not promise confidentiality;
- Ask only open questions such as:
  - o "Can you tell me what happened?"
  - o "Please explain what you mean when you say...?"
  - "Can you describe the person?" or "Can you describe the place?"
- Do no ask questions which may be considered to suggest what might have happened, or what has perpetrated the abuse e.g. "Did your Dad hit you?"
- Do not force the child to repeat what he/she said in front of another person All

#### staff and volunteers must:

- Not begin an investigation for example by asking the child what happened in writing or taking photos of
  injuries. Any concerns should be reported to the Welfare Officers, or in extreme and urgent cases, the
  emergency services;
- Maintain the viewpoint "it could happen here"
- Report any concerns that they have had, and not see these as insignificant, without delay VIA an email to the welfare officer that.

Power GT also follows the British Gymnastics Safeguarding and Compliance Policies which can be found <u>Safeguarding</u> and Compliance Policies - British Gymnastics (british-gymnastics.org)