

Freedom Fighters Arts Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Freedom Fighters Arts recognises that abuse can take many forms, whether it be physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse or neglect. Freedom Fighters Arts is committed to protect children from harm.

All members of Freedom Fighters Arts accept and recognise their responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause children harm.

Freedom Fighters Arts believes that:

- The welfare of the child is of utmost importance
- 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 should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- All members and employees of the school should be clear on how to respond appropriately

Freedom Fighters Arts will ensure that:

- All children will be treated equally with respect and dignity
- The welfare of each child will always be put first
- A balanced relationship based on mutual trust will be built which empowers the children to self advocate
- Enthusiastic and constructive feedback will be given, rather than negative criticism
- Bullying will not be accepted
- Action will be taken to stop any inappropriate verbal or physical behaviour
- We will keep up to date with health and safety legislation
- We will keep informed of changes in legislation and policies for the protection of children
- We will hold a register of every child involved with the class and will retain a contact name and number close at hand in case of emergencies
- All staff provide us with a clear DBS no longer than 5 years old

If a student discloses any safeguarding issues to a teacher or a teacher witnesses something that concerns them they will:

- Listen carefully and quietly and not ask any questions that may lead the student's answer
- Make a confidential record of the incident straight away and seek advice from the DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Write up a report with the DSL that includes exactly what happened
- The DSL will then take the next appropriate steps which may include speaking to parents, informing the local authority or MASH