

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

1. PURPOSE

Universal Judo Academies acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and Universal Judo Academies requirements.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children and adults are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children and adults

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at Universal Judo Academies in a safe environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in martial arts or outside of the activity.

Universal Judo Academies acknowledges that some people, including those with disabilities, people or those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we acknowledge the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

As part of our safeguarding policy Universal Judo Academies will;

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and adults.
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognize, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns.
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents/concerns of abuse and support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored.
- prevent the deployment of unsuitable individuals.
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in Universal Judo Academies . Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the organisation.

MONITORING

We have designated our Governing Body, British Martial Arts & Boxing Association (BMABA) to act as our club's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). BMABA can provide an impartial and expert response to safeguarding concerns if you do not feel you can raise it with our club directly. You should still contact our club first with concerns, if you feel you can. If you need to contact BMABA, you can do so by visiting bmaba.org.uk/safeguarding or by emailing safeguarding@bmaba.org.uk. Our assigned Lead Officer is Aimee Little. In her absence, another suitably trained deputy will be available from BMABA's dedicated safeguarding team.

The policy will be reviewed annually, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, UK Sport and/or Home Country Sports Councils.
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

Club Representative James Thompson

Date 17/06/2025