



WORCESTER
WADO-RYU

Child Protection Statement

1. Introduction – Policy Statement

- Worcester Wado-Ryu is affiliated to the Wado-Ryu Karate-Do Academy, which is in turn affiliated to the English Karate Federation [EKF].
- Worcester Wado-Ryu's policy statement is based on that of the EKF:

Worcester Wado-Ryu has a duty of care to safeguard all children involved in all forms of Karate from harm. All children have a right to protection, and the needs of disabled children and others who may be particularly vulnerable must be taken into account. As such Worcester Wado-Ryu will strive to ensure the safety and protection of all children involved in our club.

2. Instructors' Practices

- We always work in an open environment: parents of our child students are welcome to watch our training sessions and competitions.
- We treat all young people and disabled adults equally, and with respect and dignity.
- We always put the welfare of each young person first, e.g. before winning.
- We maintain a safe and appropriate distance with club members (e.g. it is not appropriate to have an intimate relationship with a child or to share a room with them).
- We endeavour to make training fun and enjoyable and we promote fair play.
- We endeavour to ensure that if any form of manual or physical support is required, it should be provided openly and according to guidelines provided by the Coach Education Programme.
- We keep up to date with the technical skills, qualifications and insurance in our martial art.
- We involve parents/ carers wherever possible (e.g. for the responsibility of their children in the changing rooms). If groups have to be supervised in changing rooms, we always ensure parents/ teachers/ coaches/ officials work in pairs.
- We ensure that if mixed teams are taken away, they should always be accompanied by male and female adults who are parents of team members.
- We ensure that at tournaments or residential events, adults should not enter children's rooms or invite children into their rooms.
- We give enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism.

- We recognise the developmental needs and capacity of young people and disabled adults – avoiding excessive training or competition and not pushing them against their will.
- We secure parental consent in writing to act in loco parentis, if the need arises to give permission for the administration of emergency first aid and/or other medical treatment.
- We keep a written record of any injury that occurs, along with the details of any treatment given.
- We request parental consent if club officials are required to transport young people in their cars.

3. Prohibited Practices

- We avoid spending excessive amounts of time alone with children away from others.
- We avoid taking children into our homes where they will be alone with us.
- We do not engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay.
- We do not share a room with a child.
- We do not allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching.
- We do not allow children to use inappropriate language unchallenged.
- We do not make sexually suggestive comments to a child, even in fun.
- We do not reduce a child to tears as a form of control.
- We do not allow allegations made by a child to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon.
- We do not do things of a personal nature for children or disabled adults that they can do for themselves.
- We do not invite or allow children to stay with us at our homes unsupervised.

On behalf of Worcester Wado-Ryu we have made the above statement honestly, and to the best of our knowledge all club sessions operate accordingly.

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Position in Club</i> | <i>Signature</i> | <i>Date</i> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| <i>Humphrey Arnett</i> | <i>Club Instructor</i> | | |
| <i>Michael Pogose</i> | <i>Assistant Instructor</i> | | |