

GYMSTARS GYMNASTICS ACADEMY

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Introduction

Gymnastics has proved to be a great introductory sport at a recreational level for all sports and is known to be the best physical grounding for all young children. The benefits for participation are endless. At Gymstars we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our members so they can take part in a relaxed and secure atmosphere and we will endeavour to provide gymnastics for ALL - allowing the gymnasts to be the best that they can be.

If bullying does occur, all members should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. Anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff.

What is bullying:

Bullying is undesirable and unacceptable and WILL NOT be tolerated or condoned within the club in any form. This includes:-

- Physical pushing, pinching, kicking, spitting.
- Verbal name calling, sarcasm, teasing, ridicule, ignoring.
- Sexual, Religious, Gender, Disability comments/suggestion.
- Cyber bullying.

Gymstars has an 'open door' policy, and we encourage everyone to share concerns or complaints to a coach, the secretary or the welfare officer.

Any complaints will be listened to and taken seriously. This can be done via the Club's Complaints procedure (details of which can be found on the Gymstars website), a letter or email.

Procedures

1. Report bullying incidents to staff as set out above. The Head Coach will deal with the incident as quickly as possible ensuring that both sides of the story are listened to.
2. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff.
3. In serious cases parents will be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem.
4. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly.
5. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour.

Outcomes

- 1 The bully (bullies) may be asked to genuinely apologise. Other consequences may take place.
- 2 In serious cases, the child may be asked to leave Gymstars.
- 3 If possible, the pupils will be reconciled.
- 4 After the incident / incidents have been investigated and dealt with, each case will be monitored to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.