

# Child Protection and Safeguarding: COVID-19 Addendum

Red Dragons Martial Arts School



<b>Approved by:</b>	A Lewis – RDMA Business Manager/COVID 19 Officer	<b>Date:</b> 09/09/2020
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<b>Next review due by:</b>	TBA – Updated alongside Government Announcements	

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## Important contacts

ROLE	NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
Designated safeguarding lead (DSL)	Lloyd Lewis	07779 740432
Deputy DSL	Amanda Lewis	07779 740432

### 1. Scope and definitions

This addendum reflects updated advice/information received via the local authority and sports authorities in England and applies from the start of September/Autumn term 2020.

Red Dragons Martial Arts School does not fall under the category of ‘Social Gatherings’, we are a school that puts education of the Martial Arts and Life skills programme at the heart of what we do.

This addendum sets out changes to our normal child protection/safeguarding policy in light of coronavirus, and should be read in conjunction with that policy. Unless covered here, our normal child protection policy continues to apply.

This addendum is subject to change, in response to any new or updated guidance the government may publish. We will keep it under review as set out in section 10 below.

## 2. Core safeguarding principles

As we are a school, we will follow the statutory safeguarding guidance, [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#).

We will always have regard for these important safeguarding principles:

- The best interests of children must come first
- If anyone has a safeguarding concern about any child, they should act on it immediately
- A designated safeguarding lead (DSL) or deputy should be available at all times
- It's essential that unsuitable people don't enter the school workforce or gain access to children

## 3. Reporting concerns

All staff and volunteers must continue to act on any concerns they have about a child immediately. This now includes suspected symptoms of Coronavirus. In this case we would contact the parents and escort the child outside to be collected. All members will be alerted to look out for signs and symptoms and self-isolate if required. We will use the test and trace protocol for this (see section ? below)

## 4. Red Dragons MA Stage 2 Safe Return Policy

This policy stipulates the measures in place and attendance conduct to be adhered to by all members and parents/guardians of members. The policy follows from the Partial Return Policy which was written to ensure safe conduct when the school adopted an outdoor setting. All members have been constantly updated and kept in close communication using 3 communication channels; Private Facebook Group, WhatsApp alerts and email.

Please refer to the Stage 2 Safe return Policy for full details on the stipulations for all members, such as:

- Limitations on numbers into the building and in each class.
- Use of face masks.
- Measures in place to alleviate risk of transmission within the venues i.e. no visitors/spectators/chaperones.
- Commitment to Coronavirus measures to be maintained: i.e. hand washing, no sharing of equipment, no access if unwell etc.
- Proximity control measures for preschool aged children or vulnerable children/adults.

## 5. Red Dragons MA Risk Assessment

This policy also takes into account the Risk Assessment which has been conducted on all our hired venues with specific focus on the risks that Coronavirus presents at those premises, particularly in regard to our line of work.

Risks have been identified, none within the high category due to the 1<sup>st</sup> stage safe return policy we circulated to all our members back in June. With the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage Safe Return Policy, all risks are deemed low.

A copy of our Risk Assessment can be viewed on our website if required which contains considerations such as; Droplet transmission, Fomite Transmission, Population/participants, ventilation, etc.

## **6. Red Dragons and NHS Test & Trace Service:**

Red Dragons Martial Arts endeavour to assist this service by keeping a temporary manageable record of our class attendees for 21 days. This is alongside the implemented sign-in books at most of our venues. This way we can assist the NHS Test and Trace with requests for data if needed to help contain clusters or outbreaks.

We are registered with the ICO and will only provide details for track and trace via the correct channel to NHS and continue to protect our members personal information as well as their wellbeing.

## **7. Safeguarding all children**

We are aware that this difficult time potentially puts all children at greater risk.

Staff will continue to be alert to any signs of abuse, or effects on students' mental health that are also safeguarding concerns and act on concerns immediately in line with the procedures set out in the associated policies.

## **8. Working with parents and carers**

We will make sure parents and carers:

- Are aware of any significant risks outside of our control within this sporting environment, if any are recognised.
- Know that their child is being well looked after during their lessons and that we would be in touch immediately if we noticed anything of concern in the child's behaviour whilst in our care.
- Are aware that we are doing everything to ensure that we keep up to speed on protecting them and following government guidance in regards to the coronavirus.

## **9. Mental health and additional concerns due to coronavirus**

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and social distancing measures are placing a number of additional pressures on young people's mental health and wellbeing. They may be experiencing increased feelings of anxiety, low mood or loneliness and some will need additional support at this time. We will look out for behavioural signs, including being fearful, withdrawn, aggressive, oppositional or excessively clingy, to help identify where support may be needed and feedback to the parents/carers.

We at Red Dragons School are aware of the possible effects that this period may have on our student's mental health and know how important exercise is to everyone's wellbeing, we are committed to a continued provision of this support mechanism.

Parents and carers are aware of how they can get in touch with us, having both been teacher trained we will be able to liaise with their school if necessary. We can also help signpost young people to specialist services, such as [Childline's online coronavirus](#)



[advice](#) and [Young Minds' coronavirus and mental health pages](#) and have signposted these on our communications channels in case they can help.

### **10. Safeguarding monitoring and training**

We will make sure we are aware of changes and updated to our procedures in line with the most recent safeguarding information.

This policy will be continually reviewed alongside government guidance.

### **11. Links with other policies**

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- Red Dragons Safeguarding/Child protection policy
- Red Dragons Risk Assessment
- Red Dragons Data Protection Policy