



Children, Young People and Adults at Risk Safeguarding

Safeguarding Policy for Western Wing Chun

Chief Instructor – Dean Carrick

Revised 01/01/2023

Legal Framework:

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation is available from [nspcc.org.uk/learning](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/learning).

This policy outlines practice that will promote the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults being taught in Western Wing Chun classes. The policy will be reviewed every 3 years.

Western Wing Chun should have in place arrangements that reflect the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people as well as adults at risk.

The founder and Chief instructor of Western Wing Chun has been a serving Police Officer for 19 years and has experience in Safeguarding and in particular the 'Prevent Strategy'. Over the years he has entered numerous 'Child Coming to Notice' 'Merlin' reports which flag to Social Services. Part of one of his roles included liaising with various Government agencies involved in Children Welfare.

Western Wing Chun abides by the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people, adults at risk and is committed to safeguarding practice that reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice requirements.

- We recognise the welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation has an equal right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues.
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.
- As above would also apply to adults at risk.

Purpose:

Western Wing Chun seeks to:

- Protect children, young people and adults at risk who receive martial art tuition, from harm. However, instructors are not responsible for deciding whether abuse is taking place, any concerns should be passed onto Police and Social Services for further investigating.

This policy applies to anyone teaching on behalf of *Western Wing Chun*. Failure to comply with the policy and related procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the club.

Definitions:

The Children Act 1989 definition of a child is: anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday, even if they are living independently, are a member of the armed forces or is in hospital.

Definition of a Vulnerable Adult; s42 of the Care Act 2014 identifies 'an adult at risk.' An adult at risk of abuse or neglect is defined as someone who has needs for care and support, who is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect and as a result of their care needs - is unable to protect themselves. All partners should be using this definition when raising a concern about abuse/neglect of an adult.

Child and Vulnerable Adult Abuse: Children and adults may be vulnerable to neglect and abuse or exploitation from within their family and from individuals they come across in their daily lives. There are 4 main categories of abuse, which are: sexual, physical, emotional abuse, and neglect. It is important to be aware of more specific types of abuse that fall within these categories, they are:

- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Child sexual exploitation
- Child Criminal exploitation
- Child trafficking
- Domestic abuse
- Female genital mutilation
- Grooming
- Historical abuse
- Online abuse

Safeguarding children: Safeguarding children is defined in [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](#) as:

- protecting children from maltreatment.
- preventing impairment of children's health or development.
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

The Prevent duty

Some organisations in England, Scotland and Wales have a duty, as a specified authority under section 26 of the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015, to identify vulnerable children and young people and prevent them from being drawn into terrorism. This is known as the Prevent duty. These organisations include:

- Schools
- Registered childcare providers
- Local authorities
- Police
- Prisons and probation services
- NHS trusts and foundations.
- Other organisations may also have Prevent duties if they perform delegated local authority functions.

Children can be exposed to different views and receive information from various sources. Some of these views may be considered radical or extreme.

Radicalisation is the process through which a person comes to support or be involved in extremist ideologies. It can result in a person becoming drawn into terrorism and is a form of harm.

Extremism is vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

Classes/Risk mitigation:

- **Western Wing Chun does not have bespoke classes for Children or Vulnerable Adults. Classes are mixed with Men, Women and children. This approach means those who are potentially vulnerable will always be in the company of other adults whilst training. No private lessons with children/vulnerable adults will be intentionally taught.**
- **Only students above aged 12-year old's and upwards are accepted in mixed adult classes.**
- **Efforts will be made as much as possible to pair any children of similar age whilst engaged in contact training.**
- **Women in the class will be offered the option of training with other women where possible if that's what they wish.**
- **Parents/Guardians are welcomed/encouraged to stay and monitor child or any person with responsibility over a Vulnerable adult.**
- **A record of every student's next of kin will be held by the instructor in a secure case during every lesson should the need arise.**
- **All carer's parents/guardians and those responsible for children should take them to class and pick up unless permission is given.**
- **No children are allowed to leave the hall until their parent/guardian has arrived.**
- **Bullying will not be tolerated in the class and will be challenged directly.**
- **Classes of 8 children are more will have at least one parent/guardian assisting the instructor with supervision.**

Training and Awareness:

Western Wing Chun will ensure an appropriate level of safeguarding training is available to its any newly qualified instructors. This requires them as a minimum to have awareness training that enables them to:

- Understand what safeguarding is and their role in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.
- Recognise a child potentially in need of safeguarding and take action.
- Understand how to report a safeguarding Alert.
- Understand dignity and respect when working with children and vulnerable adults.
- Have knowledge of the Safeguarding Children Policy.

Acting on concerns:

If you are worried about a child, you must raise it to the Chief Instructor who is the single point of contact for Safeguarding issues. The Chief Instructor, Dean Carrick will gather the information (not investigate!) and either raise the concerns with the parent/guardian in person, or if child abuse or more serious welfare concerns are suspected, immediately contact either 24hr NSPCC line (below), the Police on 111 or if more serious 999.

If a child or vulnerable adult needs immediate medical attention, either take them to the hospital, or depending on the injury, consider an ambulance. At the earliest opportunity, contact their next of kin.

Confidentiality and Information Sharing:

Western Wing Chun expects treats all private information confidentially. Information will only be shared in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018 and the Data Protection Act 2018.

However, information will be shared with the Local Authority if a child is deemed to be at risk of harm or **contact the police if they are in immediate danger, or a crime has been committed.**

Recording and Record Keeping:

A written record will be kept about any concern regarding an adult with safeguarding needs. This must include details of the person involved, the nature of the concern and the actions taken, decision made and why they were made.

All records will be signed and dated. All records must be securely and confidentially stored in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018 and Data Protection Act 2018.

In Western Wing Chun, no private information is held on a computer server, only hard copies of membership/medical details are held and are kept securely at the club's HQ – 6Teall House, Hartford Marina, PE28 2FH.

Use of Mobile Phones and other Digital Technology:

Instructors will be aware of the use of mobile phones and any digital technology that it is unlawful to photograph children and young people without the explicit consent of the person with parental responsibilities. This includes posting any personal information or photos on social media.

Whistleblowing:

It is important that people within *Western Wing Chun*, both teachers and students, have the confidence to come forward to speak or act if they are unhappy with anything. Whistle blowing occurs when a person raises a concern about dangerous or illegal activity, or any wrong- doing within their organisation. This includes concerns about another teacher or student. There is also a requirement by *Western Wing Chun* to protect the anonymity of whistle blowers.

Important Contacts:

For all safeguarding matters:

Name: Dean Carrick

Email address: westernwingchun@gmail.com
Telephone number: 07861 308328

Police

Emergency – 999

Non-emergency – 101

NSPCC Helpline

0808 800 5000 – 24hr