

Dynamics Gymnastics Anti-Bullying Policy

INTRODUCTION

Dynamics Gymnastics is committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all gymnasts and coaches so they can work in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. As such, Dynamics Gymnastics deems bullying to be unacceptable.

WHAT IS BULLYING

Dynamics Gymnastics understands bullying to be deliberate, hurtful behaviour in the form of physical, psychological or aggressive verbal conduct resulting in pain and distress to another person. In the gymnastics club setting, we recognise that gymnasts, parents/carers, coaches and officials could be the perpetrators or victims of bullying. Accordingly, coaches and officials are made aware that they must not abuse their position of power to bully the children in their care, parents/carers are discouraged from bullying their children by pushing them too hard and gymnasts are discouraged from bullying one another.

PROCEDURES

Regardless of whom the perpetrator might be anyone who recognises the signs of bullying must report their concerns to the Class Manager or Head Coach (and/or Welfare Officer in extreme cases) immediately in order that appropriate action can be taken. The Class Manager, Head Coach and Welfare Officer are expected to be approachable, supportive and to take all signs of bullying seriously so that all involved in Dynamics Gymnastics are confident to speak out and share concerns.

In the event of that a bullying incident is reported, the following action will be taken:

- Victim - will be reassured and told that someone in authority may need to be notified.
- Perpetrator - the situation will be explained to try and get them to understand the consequences of their actions and an apology from the perpetrator to the victim will be sought. Sanctions and/or monitoring procedures will be identified and put in place as necessary to encourage the perpetrator to change their behaviour. In the event that the perpetrator is a gymnast or young coach, the parents/carers will be informed and involved as necessary.
- The Class Manager, Head Coach and/or Welfare Officer will maintain accurate records of what happened and any action taken and will report the incident to Social Services and/or to the Police if they deem it necessary.

Written: Feb 2010

Review due: Feb 2013