

The Active Life Centre, Stephenson Road, Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 6XR  
Telephone: 01256 352858: Email: [Info@basingstokegym.co.uk](mailto:Info@basingstokegym.co.uk)  
Website: [www.basingstokegym.co.uk](http://www.basingstokegym.co.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

The welfare of our gymnasts is of key importance to Basingstoke Gymnastics Club. We are aware that parents might not know that the Welfare Team exists and is part of the overall club structure.

Gymnastics should be fun and all gymnasts should feel safe whilst they are participating in their sport. Gymnastics should be a positive experience and the environment should be one where individuals are able to achieve their full potential free from abuse and discrimination in a child-focused setting.

During Lockdown, we have taken the opportunity to expand and evolve the Welfare Team. Today we are writing to you to introduce the Welfare Team and give you an overview of what we do and what our purpose is. The Welfare team is a group of trained volunteers who work with the club to help ensure that all children and vulnerable adults are safe. All Officers have undergone a full DBS check and have attended courses on safeguarding children in sport.

## Who are the Welfare Officers?



Lucy Doyle



Nicky MacBean



Toni Barribal



Jude Bull



Sarah Barrs



Josie Crossley



Serena Birkett



Simon Hockham

Registered Charity Number 1050805 Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2866118  
VAT Registration Number: 175 9553 63  
Basingstoke and Deane Sports Council,  
Club of the Year 1998, 1999, 2003, 2008, 2013, 2015 & 2018



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### What sorts of issues can I raise with the Welfare Team?

The short answer to this is anything. It may be that your concern might, ultimately, be a coaching issue or a concern best suited to the management team to resolve. If that is the case, then the Welfare Team can re-direct you to the correct person to handle your query. But specifically, we are here to handle the following sorts of issues:

- Bullying – from other children or adults
- Concerns relating to abuse or neglect
- Mental health concerns
- Poor practice
- Discrimination
- Social media concerns
- Inappropriate behaviour or language used in the gym by adults or other children

### How can I contact the team?

You can email the team [welfare@basingstoke-gym.co.uk](mailto:welfare@basingstoke-gym.co.uk). Our email is monitored regularly and you can expect a reply within 24hrs. Please give as many details as possible in your email as this will help us direct your query or concern to the most appropriate Welfare Officer. Including your phone number, the name of the child you are concerned for and any adults that may be connected with your concern would also help speed up our response. Please be aware that discretion underpins our ethos; information will only be shared with individuals or organisations who need to know or take action. If you cannot access the internet, you can leave a note for the Welfare Team at reception or call reception who will pass your details to us.

### What should I do if I feel a child is at immediate risk of harm or abuse?

If you feel a child is in imminent danger from abuse you should call the police immediately on 999. The NSPCC also has a team dedicated to child protection in sport called the CPSU and they can be contacted on [0116 366 5580](tel:01163665580) or via email at [cpsu@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:cpsu@nspcc.org.uk).

### How can my child contact the Welfare Team?

Your child can also use our email address to contact us. However, we appreciate that lots of our gymnasts are too young to have easy access to email accounts and we intend to install a welfare box in the gym where your child can drop a note to the welfare team directly. Reception staff are also available to pass on any note or request from a child regarding contact with the welfare team. Before the end of the year we are intending to have information up in the gym about the Welfare Team in general and specific details of our team to help children identify who they can trust to speak to about any issue regarding either their own welfare or the welfare of other children.

The Welfare Team are available should you have any questions at [welfare@basingstoke-gym.co.uk](mailto:welfare@basingstoke-gym.co.uk)

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