



## Pole Position Fitness Stroud – Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy

Pole Position Fitness Stroud is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all children and young people who participate in our classes and activities. We acknowledge our duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and ensure that our safeguarding arrangements reflect statutory responsibilities, government guidance, and recognised best practice.

### 1. Policy Statement

Pole Position Fitness Stroud will: Provide a safe, secure and welcoming environment for all children. Take all reasonable steps to protect children from harm, neglect, or abuse. Ensure that safeguarding responsibilities are understood and upheld by all staff. Act promptly and appropriately on any concerns regarding a child's welfare.

### 2. General Principles

Children will be given the best possible opportunities to learn and develop in a positive environment. Teaching will focus on encouragement, positive reinforcement, and constructive guidance rather than criticism. No child should feel embarrassed or at fault for making mistakes while learning. Facilities and equipment will be used and reviewed regularly to ensure they meet safety and safeguarding expectations. Children will be supervised at all times when in the care of Pole Position Fitness Stroud.

### 3. Safeguarding Standards

All instructors, assistants, and regular volunteers are required to hold an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. All teaching staff are encouraged to complete the NSPCC "Child Protection: An Introduction" online course or equivalent recognised safeguarding training. Occasional helpers or visitors will always be supervised by DBS-checked staff and will never be left alone with children. Staff will maintain professional boundaries at all times and act as positive role models.

### 4. Safeguarding Leadership

Named Child Protection Lead – Joanne Thomas

The CPL is responsible for overseeing safeguarding practice and responding to concerns. Any concerns raised by staff, helpers, parents, or students will be reported immediately to the CPL, who will act in accordance with safeguarding training and UK safeguarding procedures.

### 5. Reporting Concerns

All staff have a duty to report concerns, no matter how small, regarding:

A child's physical or emotional wellbeing

Inappropriate behaviour

Signs of neglect or abuse

Concerns should be passed to the CPL without delay.

The CPL will follow recognised safeguarding procedures, which may include contacting local children's services or the NSPCC for guidance.

### 6. Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually or following any incident, legislative change, or significant organisational change to ensure continued alignment with safeguarding best practice.