

## **LANCASHIRE AIKIKAI – SAFEGUARDING & PROTECTION for Children, Young People, and Vulnerable Adults**

The Lancashire Aikikai adopts the British Aikido Board's Child Protection Policy and the principles expressed therein, this demands that all Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults should enjoy Aikido in a safe and enjoyable setting.

We believe this approach helps the Aikikai work towards the following objectives:

- Ensure the safety and enjoyment of all Children and Vulnerable Adults in the Lancashire Aikido setting. Our dojos must be places where they can promote and preserve their opportunity within aikido for healthy personal development.
- Ensure that Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults attending aikido who experience abuse of any kind, within or without the aikido setting, feel comfortable and safe enough to disclose abuse to, and receive protection from, their Club Leader, or Club Welfare Officer; and will also have been provided with a 'Club Welcome Pack' where they can find other disclosure resources.
- Ensure that, at club level, all adults entrusted with specific teaching and caring duties for Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults have undertaken specific training to enable them to fulfill their's & the Lancashire Aikikai's legal responsibilities.
- Ensure that any concerns regarding the welfare of Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults attending aikido are acted upon appropriately and are not ignored.
- Ensure that the full legal and moral responsibilities that accompany working with Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults are understood and fulfilled by all adults working within the Lancashire Aikikai setting.
- Ensure that all Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults have the opportunity to develop positive and balanced relationships with adults based on mutual trust and respect.
- Endeavour to ensure that Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults share in decision making about their involvement in aikido and the Lancashire Aikikai.
- Make aikido fun, enjoyable and promote respect, equality and fairness.
- Ensure that adults working within the aikido setting are not placed in situations where allegations of abuse could be made against them.

The British Aikido Board's Safeguarding and Protection policy is available on their website [www.bab.org.uk](http://www.bab.org.uk) - there are further links from the Lancashire Aikikai's own website.

Young people are juniors within the law, and the Policy, until they reach 18 years of age. All members need to be aware of the policy and how to report concerns. It is not just those involved with junior classes. 16-18 year olds, and Vulnerable Adults, attending senior classes must receive adequate care and protection from all Officers & members of the Lancashire Aikikai.

The reporting mechanism is an escalating one beginning with making the Class Coach, Club Leader, or the Club Welfare Officer or the Association Child Protection Officer aware that abuse has taken or is taking place. The Lancashire Aikikai website and the Club Welcome Pack offer further options for the reporting of abuse, or the suspicion of abuse, from within and without the Aikikai and to whichever of the relevant authorities described on [these](#) other website pages the discloser might choose to 'contact'.

The Appendices to the BAB Child Protection Policy are also adopted and followed by the Aikikai and its Clubs as either policy, guidance and recommendations or best practise as applicable in each case.