Anti-bullying policy

For the use of centres which are members of the BEF or affiliated to them

More advice is available www.bhs.org.uk/safeguardingchildren

This policy should be reviewed and updated annually

Name of organisation/club:	**Hood Hill Equestrian**
This policy was last reviewed on:	October 2026
Date of next review:	October 2027
Named Safeguarding Officer:	Ashleigh Wilkinson
Contact information:	07359491861 ashleighhoodhill12@hotmail.com

Hood Hill Equestrian will:

- Recognise its duty of care and responsibility to safeguard all participants from harm
- Promote and implement this anti-bullying policy
- Seek to ensure that bullying behaviour is not accepted or condoned
- Require all members of the centre to be given information about, and sign up to, this policy
- Take action to investigate and respond to any alleged incidents of bullying
- Encourage and facilitate children and young people to play an active part in developing and adopting a code of conduct to address bullying
- Ensure that coaches are given access to information, guidance and/or training on bullying

Each participant, coach, volunteer and staff members:

- Respect every young person's need for, and rights to, a play environment where safety, security, praise, recognition and opportunity for taking responsibility are available
- Respect the feelings and views of others
- Recognise that everyone is important and that our differences make each of us special and should be valued
- Show appreciation of others by acknowledging individual qualities, contributions and progress
- Be committed to the early identification of bullying, and prompt and collective action to deal with it
- Ensure safety by having rules and practices carefully explained and displayed for all to see

- Report incidents of bullying they see – by doing nothing you are condoning bullying

Bullying

- All forms of bullying will be addressed
- Everybody at the centre has a responsibility to work together to stop bullying • Bullying can include online as well as offline behaviour
- Bullying can include:
  - physical pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching etc

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  - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, persistent teasing and emotional torment through ridicule, humiliation or the continual ignoring of individuals
  - posting of derogatory or abusive comments, videos or images on social network sites
  - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, sectarianism
  - sexual comments, suggestions or behaviour - unwanted physical contact

Children with a disability, from ethnic minorities, young people who are gay or lesbian, or those with learning difficulties are more vulnerable to this form of abuse and are more likely to be targeted

Support to the young person

- Young People should know who will listen to and support them
- Systems should be established to open the door to children wishing to talk about bullying or any other issue that affects them
- Potential barriers to talking (including those associated with a child's disability or impairment) need to be identified and addressed at the outset to enable children to approach adults for help
- Young People should have access to Helpline numbers
- Anyone who reports an incident of bullying will be listened to carefully and be supported
- Any reported incident of bullying will be investigated objectively and will involve listening carefully to all those involved
- Young People being bullied will be supported and assistance given to uphold their right to play and live in a safe environment which allows their healthy development
- Those who bully will be supported and encouraged to stop bullying
- Sanctions for those bullying others that involves long periods of isolation, or which diminish and make individuals look or feel foolish in front of others, will be avoided.

Support to the parent/carers

- Parent/carers should be advised on the centre's bullying policy and practice
- Any incident of bullying will be discussed with the young person's parent(s)/carers
- Parents/carers will be consulted on action to be taken (for both victim and bully) and agreements made as to what action should be taken
- Information and advice on coping with bullying will be made available
- Support should be offered to the parent(s) including information on other agencies or support lines

Useful contacts

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000
CPSU (Child Protection in Sport Unit) www.thecpsu.org.uk ChildLine
0800 1111 / www.childline.org.uk
Kidscape www.kidscape.org.uk

Anti-Bullying Alliance www.antibullyingalliance.org
BEF Safeguarding Officer 02476 698871

BHS Safeguarding Team

02476 840746

safeguarding@bhs.org.uk