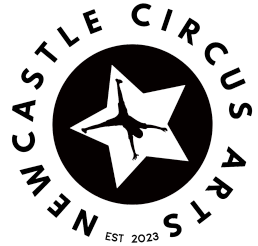


# Newcastle Circus Arts

## Community Classes Policy



### 1. Introduction

Newcastle Circus Arts is committed to providing safe, inclusive, and welcoming spaces for all participants. Some of our sessions are run as community classes, meaning that people of different ages, abilities, and backgrounds may take part together.

It is essential that everyone behaves respectfully within these spaces, not only to protect children but also to safeguard young people and potentially vulnerable adults.

**All under-16s must be accompanied by an adult during open training sessions.**

This policy sets out the expectations of participants and facilitators to ensure the safety and well-being of our community.

### 2. Responsibilities

- Participants are responsible for following the Code of Conduct and respecting others in the space.
- Parents/Guardians are responsible for the supervision of any participant under the age of 16 during open training sessions.
- Facilitators/Staff are responsible for leading sessions, maintaining a safe environment, and taking safeguarding concerns seriously.

### 3. Code of Conduct

To maintain a safe and inclusive community environment, all participants must:

1. Use respectful language – Speak kindly and avoid swearing, offensive jokes, or inappropriate comments.

2. Respect personal space – Always ask before offering physical support, spotting, or making contact.
3. Be mindful of children and young people – Model positive behaviour and ensure interactions are age-appropriate.
4. Promote inclusivity – Encourage others, celebrate progress, and be patient with different learning styles and abilities.
5. Follow facilitator guidance – Respect instructions from Newcastle Circus Arts staff, who are responsible for class leadership and safeguarding.
6. Protect privacy – Do not take photos or videos without prior consent from staff and those being filmed.
7. Report concerns – If you experience or witness behaviour that feels unsafe, report it immediately to a facilitator or staff member.

#### 4. Safeguarding and Welfare

- Newcastle Circus Arts operates within its wider Safeguarding Policy, which applies to all community classes.
- Any safeguarding concern will be dealt with promptly, following organisational procedures.
- Adults accompanying under-16s must remain present and responsible for the child during open training sessions.

#### 5. Commitment to Community

Newcastle Circus Arts believes in building a culture of respect, inclusion, and shared responsibility.

We ask all participants to:

- Follow this policy in full.
- Support staff in creating safe spaces.
- Report any concerns so that issues can be addressed promptly.

## 6. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if required, to ensure it remains fit for purpose and aligned with safeguarding standards.

Date issued: 1/1/2024

Approved by: Newcastle Circus Arts CIC Board of Directors

HANNAH GUY

Last revised 1/1/2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Guy', with a stylized flourish at the end.