



Fourth Lane Swimming Club LLC

**FOURTH LANE SWIMMING CLUB LLC CHILD HEALTH AND SAFETY
POLICY**

Version	Date	Comments
1.0	August 2025	Approved
1.1	July 2026	Approved
1.2	October 2026	Under Review

Review Date: July 2027



Fourth Lane Swimming Club LLC

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1. Policy Statement

Fourth Lane Swimming Club LLC is committed to providing a safe, positive, and nurturing environment where all children can enjoy swimming and develop their skills free from harm. The welfare of the children in our care is our highest priority.

We believe that:

- The health, safety, and well-being of every child is paramount.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- Working in partnership with children, parents, and carers is essential.

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, coaches, committee members, and members of the club.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

- **The Club** has overall responsibility for ensuring this policy is implemented and reviewed.
- **The Club Welfare Officer** is the first point of contact for any concerns about child welfare or safety. They are responsible for acting on concerns, liaising with authorities, and ensuring all safeguarding records are maintained confidentially.



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- **All Coaches, Teachers, and Volunteers** are responsible for familiarising themselves with this policy, adhering to its guidelines, and reporting any concerns immediately to the Welfare Officer.
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3. Safeguarding and Child Protection

a) Recruitment & Vetting:

All individuals in regulated activity with children will undergo a rigorous recruitment process, which includes:

- A satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check (or equivalent national police check).
- Verification of identity and qualifications.
- Collection of at least two professional references.
- Completion of mandatory safeguarding training.

b) Code of Conduct for Adults:

All adults working with children must agree to and adhere to a separate Code of Conduct, which includes principles for professional boundaries, appropriate language, and behaviour.

c) Photography and Filming:

The use of cameras and video equipment, including mobile phones, is strictly regulated.

- Parental consent for photography/filming for coaching purposes or club promotion must be obtained upon membership registration.
- No images of children will be used without explicit consent.
- Photography is never permitted in changing areas or toilets.

d) Reporting Concerns:

All club members and staff have a duty to report any concerns about a child's



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welfare to the Club Welfare Officer immediately. If a child is in immediate danger, the police should be contacted first.

4. Health and Safety in the Pool Environment

a) Supervision:

- A minimum coach-to-swimmer ratio (as set by the Club in the 'Coach-to-Swimmer ration policy) will be maintained at all times, in line with national governing body guidelines.
- Coaches must maintain constant visual supervision of the pool during sessions.
- Lifeguards provided by the pool facility must be present and vigilant during all club sessions. Coaches and lifeguards will clarify their respective roles before each session.

b) Poolside Safety:

- Clear rules for behaviour on poolside (no running, no pushing, etc.) will be established and enforced.
- The pool area must be kept clear of obstructions (e.g., kit bags, equipment not in use).
- Emergency procedures (e.g., evacuation, first aid) must be known to all staff and displayed prominently.

c) First Aid and Accident Reporting:

- A fully stocked first aid kit will be accessible poolside at all times.
- At least one qualified First Aider must be present during every session.
- All accidents, incidents, or near-misses must be recorded in the club's Accident Book immediately and reported to the Welfare Officer and the parent/carer.



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d) Water Quality and Hygiene:

- The club will ensure the pool operator maintains water quality standards as per national health and safety regulations.
 - Swimmers with open wounds, verrucas, or infectious illnesses (e.g., diarrhea, vomiting) should not swim.
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5. Medical Conditions and Allergies

- Upon registration, parents/carers must provide full details of any medical conditions, allergies, or additional needs their child has.
 - This information will be kept confidential but shared with relevant coaches to ensure the child's safety during sessions.
 - Management of specific conditions (e.g., asthma, epilepsy, anaphylaxis, diabetes) will be discussed with the parent/carer, and any necessary medication (e.g., inhalers, EpiPens, insulin) must be readily available poolside.
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6. Changing Room Policy

- Where possible, separate adult and child changing facilities should be used.
 - Parents should only assist their own children and only where necessary, if the facility allows.
 - Club coaches and staff will not assist children in changing rooms. If assistance is essential, it should, wherever possible, be provided with the parent's knowledge and consent and by two members of staff.
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7. Transport



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- The club does not accept responsibility for transporting children to or from events unless specifically arranged (e.g., for a team trip).
 - For arranged transport, all drivers must be vetted, have appropriate insurance, and vehicles must be roadworthy and safe.
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8. Communication with Children

- All communication between staff and children should be professional and related to club activities.
 - Group communication should be via official club channels (e.g., a club email or messaging group that includes parents/carers for under-16s). One-to-one communication with a child should be avoided or copied to a parent.
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9. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Club Committee and Welfare Officer, or sooner in response to changes in legislation or club circumstances.

Key Contacts:

- **Club Welfare Officer:** Sebastian Coulson, +971 58 538 1992, sebastian@4lsacademy.com
- **Emergency Services:** 999