



## **Introductory Letter**

**To Parents & Guardians**

Dear Parents , Gymnasts and Participants,

On behalf of Zero Gravity Academy I am pleased to welcome you as a new member of the club.

As a British Gymnastics affiliated club it is our aim to develop a safe, effective and child-friendly educational environment in which members of the club can participate in gymnastics activities under the guidance of appropriately qualified coaches. Our club operates an open philosophy in which we welcome the involvement and support of parents and guardians of participants. Our club and members regularly participate in organised events and in-house events mostly run by coaches and volunteers. If you would like to volunteer for any aspect of our club events please speak to Rachael at Reception.

Members of the club will be offered the highest standards of coaching to aid their development within our exciting sport. Coaches will be helping children work through British Gymnastics award schemes (*which you are able to purchase after completion*) to progressively and safely increase their ability level. Coaches will be pleased to discuss your child's development and training programme with you at the end of your child's session. We aspire to provide a child/member centred, coach-led learning environment where we aim to develop members to their optimum level of performance. All sessions are led by British Gymnastics qualified coaches at an appropriate level and have been screened for their suitability to work with children and vulnerable adults.

**Welfare** The Academy has appointed a welfare officer (Rachael Colton) to deal with child protection/poor practice issues that may arise. Arrangements should be made to escort your child to and from training sessions and events. We would appreciate your child arriving and being collected promptly. The club has adopted the British Gymnastics policies for child protection, Health, Safety & Welfare, Equality & Code of Practice, and all officials, coaches, members and parents must adhere to these policies.

**Dress** Participants are required to appropriately dressed in gymnastic attire, but sensitive discretion within the bounds of reasonable safety will be shown in particular circumstances. General flexible clothing with no zips or buttons should be worn. No participants will be allowed to wear jewellery. Long hair should be tied back.

**Fees** Fees should be paid by Direct Debit through our online system "GoCardless". This should be set up after your child's second taster session. As your place within the club is allocated solely to you, we do not allow anyone else to take your place unless you tell us that you no longer wish to remain a member of the club. In the event of non-attendance for any reason, you will still be liable for the full payment of any fees for the period you are away. The annual British Gymnastics registration fee includes membership to British Gymnastics and this encompasses appropriate insurance for your child and the club.

I hope that you enjoy being a member of Zero Gravity Academy, we all look forward to working with you over the coming months and years.

Best Regards  
Zero Gravity Academy Management.



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*To Parents & Guardians*

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### **General Information & Standards of Behaviour**

Our coaching team will be continuously enforcing the highest standards of behaviour for participants in any club activity or event. Disruptive behaviour or abuse of the standards we expect will not be tolerated, since this can have implications for the safety and enjoyment of participants of the club. Instant dismissal from the club will result from acts of gross misconduct. The list (below) provides examples of offences which are normally regarded as gross misconduct – however this is not intended to be exhaustive:

- Theft of property belonging to any member of the club or connected persons
- Acts of violence, harassment, abuse or bullying
- Defacing or abuse of equipment
- Drug or alcohol misuse
- Conduct that brings the club into disrepute

Gymnastics can (if safely controlled) be a potentially dangerous sport. The coaches will take all the measures to avoid injury to the performers. All gymnasts and parents must understand that the coaches may have to handle/catch the performer to prevent injury and manually support the progressions for some skills.

The disciplinary procedure covers ALL members of the club (including coaches, management and parents).

Membership of the club is a privilege and is subject to every participant putting in the required effort to maintain their place. If they are not prepared to work hard to meet the standards expected of them, their position within the club may be reconsidered.

If we feel standards of behaviour we will discuss a possible solution to increase standards of behaviour with the participant and parent/guardian. If standards are not improved this may jeopardise your position within the club.

**Attendance** Please ensure to arrive on time to your session. All members of the club should be present for the warm-up section of any session. Any child not partaking in the warm-up stands to lose part of their training to do a separate warm up at the coach' earliest convenience. Zero Gravity cannot refund participants for training sessions missed due to absence, illness or injury.

**Photography and Videoing Policy** To aid coaches within the club, the use of video or photography will be used. For the protection of all participants Zero Gravity has implemented the following policy:

Videoing and photography will be used in training sessions and during events as a coaching aid.

Photographs may be used as a record of achievement and posted on internal noticeboards, facebook or the Academy website.

A minimum of two responsible adults must be present at all times during filming.

Video and Photo material will be stored appropriately to avoid misuse.

Applications from persons other than coaches to film or photograph the participants during training, or away from the gym must be scrutinised and approved by the lead coach.

**More information** If you have any questions please get in touch with us by telephone (01752 842517) or via email ([admin@zerogravityacademy.co.uk](mailto:admin@zerogravityacademy.co.uk)).