

CHILD BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Applies To: All instructors, assistant instructors, volunteers, students, parents/guardians, and visitors

Effective Date: Feb 2013

Review Date: Jan 2026

Purpose

SKMA Hapkido is committed to providing a safe, respectful, disciplined, and supportive environment for all children and young people participating in martial arts training, events, grading sessions, seminars, and related activities.

This policy outlines the standards of behaviour expected from children attending SKMA Hapkido and explains how inappropriate behaviour will be managed fairly, consistently, and respectfully.

The policy supports:

- The safety and wellbeing of all students
- Respect for instructors, staff, parents, and fellow students
- Positive martial arts values including discipline, self-control, courtesy, and responsibility
- A structured learning environment where all students can train safely and confidently

1. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All children and young people under the age of 18 attending SKMA Hapkido
- Parents, guardians, and carers supporting children attending the school

- All instructors, assistant instructors, volunteers, and staff

The policy applies during:

- Regular classes
- Grading sessions
- Competitions and demonstrations
- Seminars and camps
- Social activities organised by SKMA Hapkido
- Online classes or digital communication associated with the school

2. Core Behaviour Expectations

All students are expected to:

2-1. Respect Others

Students must:

- Treat instructors, assistants, fellow students, and visitors with respect
- Listen when instructors are speaking
- Use appropriate language at all times
- Avoid bullying, intimidation, teasing, or aggressive behaviour
- Respect cultural, religious, and personal differences

2-2. Train Safely

Students must:

- Follow instructor directions immediately
- Use techniques responsibly and only when instructed
- Avoid reckless or dangerous behaviour
- Inform an instructor if they are injured or unwell
- Wear appropriate uniform and safety equipment where required

2-3. Demonstrate Self-Discipline

Students are expected to:

- Arrive on time and prepared for class
- Maintain focus during lessons
- Show good sportsmanship
- Take responsibility for their actions
- Care for school equipment and facilities

2-4. Respect the Training Environment

Students must:

- Keep the training area clean and tidy
- Not damage equipment or property
- Follow hygiene expectations
- Behave appropriately in changing areas and waiting areas

3. Prohibited Behaviour

The following behaviours are not acceptable at SKMA Hapkido:

- Bullying or harassment
- Physical aggression outside controlled training
- Deliberately hurting another student
- Swearing or abusive language
- Disruptive or unsafe behaviour
- Discrimination or racist behaviour
- Refusal to follow safety instructions
- Damage to equipment or property
- Bringing prohibited items or weapons to the venue

- Filming or photographing others without permission
- Inappropriate online behaviour connected to the school

Serious misconduct may result in immediate removal from training and further action.

4. Anti-Bullying Statement

SKMA Hapkido has zero tolerance for bullying.

Bullying may include:

- Verbal abuse
- Physical intimidation
- Social exclusion
- Cyberbullying
- Repeated teasing or humiliation

Any concerns regarding bullying should be reported immediately to an instructor or safeguarding lead.

All reports will be taken seriously and handled appropriately.

5. Instructor Responsibilities

Instructors and staff will:

- Promote positive behaviour and mutual respect
- Lead by example
- Apply rules fairly and consistently
- Use appropriate and proportionate behaviour management strategies
- Prioritise student safety and wellbeing
- Communicate concerns with parents where necessary
- Record serious incidents appropriately

Instructors will never use:

- Physical punishment
- Humiliation or degrading treatment
- Threatening behaviour
- Excessive shouting or intimidation

6. Managing Poor Behaviour

Where behaviour falls below expected standards, SKMA Hapkido will aim to manage issues calmly, fairly, and proportionately.

Possible responses may include:

1. Verbal reminder or warning
2. Temporary removal from an activity
3. Discussion with parent or guardian
4. Behaviour agreement or improvement plan
5. Suspension from classes or events
6. Permanent removal from the school in serious cases

The response will depend on:

- The seriousness of the behaviour
- Whether the behaviour created a safety risk
- Previous incidents or repeated concerns
- The age and understanding of the child

Parents will normally be informed where behaviour concerns are ongoing or serious.

7. Safeguarding and Welfare

Any behaviour that raises safeguarding concerns will be managed in line with the school's safeguarding and child protection procedures.

Where necessary, concerns may be referred to relevant authorities or safeguarding agencies.

8. Parent and Guardian Expectations

Parents and guardians are expected to:

- Encourage respectful behaviour
- Support instructors and school rules
- Ensure children arrive prepared for training
- Inform instructors of relevant medical, behavioural, or welfare concerns
- Avoid disruptive behaviour during classes or events
- Communicate concerns respectfully

Parents must not:

- Attempt to discipline other children
- Use abusive or aggressive language towards staff or students
- Disrupt instruction during classes

9. Digital and Online Conduct

Students participating in online activities or school communication platforms must:

- Communicate respectfully
- Avoid inappropriate messages or content
- Not share private information about others
- Follow instructor guidance during online sessions

Any misuse of online platforms may result in restricted access or disciplinary action.

10. Equality and Inclusion

SKMA Hapkido is committed to creating an inclusive environment where all children are treated fairly regardless of:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender
- Race or ethnicity
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Background or personal circumstances

Discriminatory behaviour will not be tolerated.

11. Reporting Concerns

Behaviour concerns, bullying incidents, or welfare concerns can be reported to:

- The Lead Instructor
- The Welfare or Safeguarding Officer
- A designated member of staff

All concerns will be treated seriously and handled confidentially where appropriate.

12. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly and updated where necessary to ensure it remains effective and aligned with best practice.

