

CharterhouseClub

Godalming's Premier Health and Fitness Club

Unaccompanied Children

Policy

Version 2

30 January 2018

Introduction

Charterhouse Club is a members' only facility located on the grounds of Charterhouse School offering a range of facilities and activities for Charterhouse School pupils, staff and their families, and public members and their families.

When joining, Members are issued with a membership card which they are required to produce at the Reception when they enter the building in order to record their entry and gain access. This provides a level of security for the building and those taking part in activities within.

Over the years, the Club has built up a very high reputation for service and customer care, providing what is believed to be a safe and secure environment, particularly for young children.

Whilst this reputation is a credit to the team, it brings with it potential cause for concern. Such is the confidence in our operation that some parents take surprising risks with their children that they might not take in other environments.

The Club cannot take responsibility for young children who are left unaccompanied except where those children are attending organised, supervised activities or classes. This also applies to children left unaccompanied around the building whilst the member participates in activities.

In response to concerns raised by team members, a risk assessment was undertaken to identify the hazards associated with young children attending the Club unaccompanied by a parent, or adult over 16, or left unaccompanied whilst the parent or adult participates in their chosen activity, and the measures currently in place to mitigate those hazards.

The result of the assessment led to the conclusion that guidance should be drawn up and implemented in the form of a policy statement which would help to ensure the safety and welfare of young children by setting out the arrangements for dealing with those who attend the Club, or are left unaccompanied by a parent or adult over 16.

This statement will be publicised on the Club's website, available at Reception and as guidance for staff on duty who may find themselves dealing with young children who are unaccompanied.

The Policy

When attending the Club, a parent or adult, aged at least 16 years, should accompany all children under the age of 8 years into the building from the car park.

Children under the age of 8 years should not be dropped off in the car park and left to make their own way into the building.

Children under the age of 8 years should be accompanied by a parent or adult, aged at least 16 years, at all times when in the Club except where the child is participating in a supervised activity.

Where the child is attending a supervised activity, the parent or adult must accompany the child to register their attendance at the Reception counter prior to the commencement of the activity, and then deliver the child into the hands of the activity supervisor.

Junior Members and Junior guests under the age of 8 wishing to swim **MUST** be accompanied in the swimming pool water by an adult on a maximum ratio of 2 children to 1 adult (over 18 years of age).

Parents under 16 years of age accompanying their children to swim, must ensure the Duty Manager is made aware of their presence in the pool.

Junior Members are not granted access to the gym area.