

Trampolining Safety Guidance

This statement is issued by Norfolk County Council PE, Sport and Physical Development Team, September 2006.

Norfolk County Council is engaged in promoting a county-wide trampolining programme to ensure that pupils and staff are kept safe and that learning is most effective. This programme also gives us the opportunity to review practice and guidance. It has become apparent that there are a number of cases where injuries have been sustained in trampolining activities and the courts have determined that there was negligence.

There are a number of often interlinked elements which may have a bearing on why arms are trapped; pupils not being strong and/or numerous enough to take the weight, pupils not being properly trained, no checks to ensure that pupils know exactly what they have to do, inadequate supervision and, most important of all, ***staff not taking an active – physical – role themselves.***

This latter point was highlighted in the most recent edition of British Gymnastics Trampolining Code of Practice (2004):

“(pupils)...under the direct supervision and involvement of trained staff...”

Norfolk County Council Children's Services requires that all teachers, appropriately trained to teach trampolining, must be physically involved in unfolding and folding trampolines. Students should be trained to assist but the teacher must be involved as part of the process. There have been instances when students have unfolded trampolines on their own and have had serious accidents because of their lack of strength or experience.

This guidance should be observed with immediate effect in the school where you are employed.

Should you require any additional information relating to the issue of this guidance then please contact:

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