



G&T Events Ltd (trading as Future Survival)

Searching, Screening and Confiscation Policy

This is a core policy that forms part of the induction for all staff. It is a requirement that all members of staff have access to this policy and sign to say they have read and understood its contents.

Date written: 2nd June 2025

Date of last update: 2nd June 2025

Date agreed and ratified by: 3rd June 2025, Mr G Broadbent, Director

Date of next full review: 1st June 2026

This policy will be reviewed at least annually and/or following any updates to national and local guidance and procedures.

1. Policy Statement

This policy ensures a calm, safe and supportive environment for all participants, staff, and visitors. It outlines our approach to searching, screening, and confiscation, in line with Department for Education guidance (*Searching, Screening and Confiscation: Advice for Schools – July 2022*) and safeguarding responsibilities.

2. Legal Framework

This policy is based on:

- Education Act 1996
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Equality Act 2010
- *Keeping Children Safe in Education*
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children*

3. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Director:** Holds overall responsibility for authorising staff to conduct searches and ensuring the practice is lawful, proportionate, and in line with safeguarding procedures.
- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):** Must be informed of all searches involving prohibited items and any instance where a search raises a safeguarding concern.
- **Authorised Staff:** Only staff authorised by the Director may carry out or assist with searches.

4. Prohibited and Banned Items

Prohibited items include:

- Knives or weapons
- Alcohol
- Illegal drugs
- Stolen items
- Tobacco or cigarette papers
- Fireworks
- Pornographic images
- Any article likely to be used to commit an offence, cause injury, or damage property

The Director may also identify additional banned items under the organisation's behaviour and safety rules (e.g. vapes, energy drinks, lighters).

5. Searching Individuals

Authorised staff may carry out a search:

- **With consent:** For any item if the individual agrees.
- **Without consent:** If there are reasonable grounds to suspect possession of a prohibited or banned item.

Search procedures:

- Must be conducted by a staff member of the same sex with a witness present.
- Will take place in a private space where possible.
- Will not involve the removal of clothing other than outer garments such as coats, hats, shoes or scarves.

6. Strip Searches

Strip searches can **only** be carried out by the police under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. Staff:

- Must advocate for the young person's welfare at all times.
- Will inform the parent or guardian wherever practicable.
- Must record the search, actions taken, and provide aftercare and support in accordance with safeguarding procedures.

7. Screening

We may use handheld metal detectors or walk-through scanners as a preventative measure. These:

- Will be communicated in advance to participants and families.
- Will be adjusted as needed for individuals with disabilities or additional needs.

Refusal to comply with screening may result in appropriate follow-up action in line with our behaviour or safeguarding policies.

8. Confiscation

Authorised staff may confiscate items that:

- Pose a risk to safety or wellbeing
- Are prohibited or banned under our policies
- Are suspected to be evidence in relation to an offence

Confiscated items will be dealt with as follows:

- **Illegal or dangerous items:** Handed to the police (e.g., drugs, weapons, stolen goods).
- **Alcohol, tobacco, fireworks:** Not returned to the individual; disposed of appropriately.
- **Pornographic or indecent images:** Never viewed or copied; immediately referred to the DSL and, if appropriate, the police.

- **Electronic devices:** Examined only where there is a good safeguarding reason. Any concerning material will be reported to the DSL.

9. Safeguarding and Support

All searches must prioritise the welfare of the individual. Any concerns arising from a search must be referred to the DSL. The DSL will:

- Initiate safeguarding procedures as necessary
- Assess the need for support, referral to social care, or early intervention services

10. Recording and Monitoring

All searches involving:

- Prohibited items
- Police involvement
- Use of force
- Safeguarding concerns

...must be recorded and logged on our internal safeguarding system.

Details to include:

- Date, time, and location
- Who was searched and by whom
- Reason for the search
- Any items found
- Outcome and follow-up actions

Records will be monitored for trends and equality considerations.

11. Informing Parents or Guardians

Parents or guardians will be informed of:

- Any search involving a prohibited item
- Any search leading to a safeguarding concern
- Any action taken as a result

Other searches may also be communicated at the discretion of the DSL or Director, based on the circumstances.

12. Complaints

Any concerns or complaints about this policy or a specific incident must be made through our standard complaints procedure.