

Dojo Etiquette

As a new student of karate you will notice many traditional behaviours and actions that all the students adhere to. These customs are there to help build common courtesy, respect, structure and safety.

- In the dojo karate is your only concern.
- The instructors are to be addressed as Sensei (teacher). Students must bow to the instructors.
- All students must bow when entering and leaving the dojo.
- All students must learn the Dojo Kun.
- Always bow to your training partner as a sign of mutual respect and appreciation.
- Reply to instructions given by Sensei or Senpai with the word 'Oss' to show respect and understanding.
- Inform Sensei if you are on any medication or have a minor injury that may affect your training (before class starts).
- Always keep yourself and your Gi (uniform) clean.
- Higher grades (Senpai) should assist lower grades (Kohai).
- At the start and finish of every lesson, students must line up quickly and in order of grade. If you are late, kneel down correctly where the Instructor can see you and wait until you are told to enter the line, whereupon you must run round the back of the line and join in.
- Keep the dojo clean and tidy.
- It is impolite to leave the class before it is over without permission. If necessary make arrangements with Sensei before class begins.
- It is necessary to train in the dojo at least twice a week, where possible, if one wishes to progress.
- Let Sensei know if you are going to be absent from class for a prolonged period of time.
- No food or drink is allowed in the dojo.
- All watches/jewellery must be removed; a plaster may cover items that cannot be removed.
- All finger and toe nails must be kept short.

These guidelines are meant for your safety and benefit in learning. Should there be any etiquette issues please consult Sensei.

