

# Australian Karate Instructor Takes On British Standards

Submitted by: NAKMAS

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Australian born Aaron Harris, 4th Dan Black Belt, has been in the UK 16 years, brandishing his form of Karate in and around the London area. Together with a team of black belt instructors, Kenshukai Karate was formed and has developed over many years to become popular with UK students.

More recently, Kenshukai Karate, members of the National Association of Karate and Martial Art Schools (NAKMAS) have been working to gain Equality Awareness Qualifications, and their aim is to expand their classes within all areas of the local community. Classes will be available to both children and adults. They also aim to expand to incorporate students with high functioning autism and Asperger's Syndrome as well as a mix of other educational needs.

NAKMAS currently hold the Intermediate level of the Equality Standard: A Framework for Sport, a government initiative run with UK Sport, to accredit sporting bodies with national equality standards. They are working towards the Advanced level and this involves clubs and organisations within membership taking equality awareness on board.

Aaron Harris, a long established Karate instructor in Australia, put aside what he knew and took a leap of faith in NAKMAS and its initiatives. Another such initiative is the Safe Kids Campaign; its purpose being to raise awareness of bullying for the junior members of the clubs across the UK.

Harris said: 'As a club, we pride ourselves on being family oriented with parents and children often training together in the same class. People from all walks of life are welcome to join us along with those who have additional educational needs. We aim to instil confidence and self esteem in all our students giving them the ability to deal with any bullying issues that may arise.

Kenshukai Karate was established in 2000. Aaron Harris is assisted by Peter Angell 4th Dan, Dmitriy Emelianov 2nd Dan, Kevin John 2nd Dan and Eddie Bitton 2nd Dan. They are all striving for high standards and to pass these on to their students.

Joe Ellis, Chair of NAKMAS, said Kenshukai Karate have been members for many years and they are always developing both their Karate and their organisation standards. We are very proud to have them as members. Aaron has been working alongside me recently to advance his knowledge of Asperger's Syndrome as I myself have been clinically diagnosed and have lots of experience of teaching students on the autism spectrum.

You can contact Kenshukai Karate at [www.kenshukai.net](http://www.kenshukai.net) or call Aaron Harris on 07780 900330.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Find out more about Kenshukai Karate at [www.kenshukai.net](http://www.kenshukai.net)

Contact Aaron Harris Tel: 07780 900330.

Find out more about NAKMAS at [www.nakmas.org.uk](http://www.nakmas.org.uk)

NAKMAS has secured the Equality Standard: A Framework for Sport. To find out more about Equality Standard: A Framework for Sport at [www.equalitystandard.org](http://www.equalitystandard.org)

The National Association of Karate and Martial Art Schools (NAKMAS) National Governing Body is a non-funded national governing body and is a member of Sport & Recreation Alliance (formerly known as the CCPR). With its Head Office based in Kent, NAKMAS governs all forms of traditional and modern martial arts and has over 65,000 members within the UK.

NAKMAS is an approved insurance provider by ACE Europe and Hiscox and holds a National and International Quality Standard Certificate via the BSI (British Standards Institute).

For further information, please contact:

Libby Ellison, NAKMAS Press & Media Officer  
NAKMAS National Governing Body  
PO Box 262  
Herne Bay  
CT6 9AW  
Tel: 01227 370055  
Fax: 01227 370056  
Email: [libby.ellison@nakmas.org.uk](mailto:libby.ellison@nakmas.org.uk)