**Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Adaptive Cycling Policy**

**1. Introduction**
At NE Cycling CIC, we believe that cycling is a joyous experience and should be accessible to all. As an outdoor physical activity, cycling can provide significant benefits for individuals with Social, Emotional, and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. We have worked with people with a variety of needs, including non-verbal autistic individuals, and we are committed to ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to participate in and enjoy cycling.

NE Cycling CIC is committed to providing inclusive cycling opportunities for all individuals, including those with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disabilities. We recognise the importance of accessibility, adaptability, and support to ensure that every participant can engage fully and safely in our cycling programmes. This policy applies to all our offerings, including school packages and alternative provision.

**2. Aims and Objectives**

* To ensure that cycling activities are accessible to individuals with SEN and disabilities.
* To provide reasonable adjustments to accommodate different needs.
* To work collaboratively with schools, parents, and professionals to support participants effectively.
* To promote an inclusive and supportive environment where all individuals can develop their cycling skills and confidence.

**3. Identification and Support for SEN Participants**

* We will work with schools and guardians to identify specific needs before participation.
* Where necessary, we will conduct initial assessments to determine suitable cycling adaptations or support strategies.
* We will provide trained coaches who have experience working with individuals with diverse needs.
* We will ensure that our coaching approach is flexible and tailored to individual requirements.

**4. Adaptive Cycling and Equipment**

* While we do not currently own adaptive bikes such as tandems, trikes, or handcycles, we are committed to sourcing suitable equipment where possible.
* We will collaborate with external organisations and funding bodies to facilitate access to adaptive bikes when required.
* We will adapt session plans to ensure that all participants, regardless of ability, can engage meaningfully in cycling activities.

**5. Staff Training and Awareness**

* Our coaching team will receive training on SEN awareness and inclusive coaching practices.
* We will ensure that staff understand common SEN conditions and appropriate adaptations for cycling.
* We will engage in continuous professional development to enhance our inclusive coaching capabilities.

**6. Health and Safety Considerations**

* We will conduct risk assessments for all activities, ensuring that adaptations and reasonable adjustments are in place.
* We will maintain clear communication with participants, parents, and schools regarding safety protocols.
* We will ensure that all safety measures align with British Cycling guidelines and best practices.

**7. Collaboration and Continuous Improvement**

* We will seek feedback from participants, parents, and schools to continuously improve our inclusive cycling offer.
* We will explore funding and partnerships to enhance access to adaptive cycling equipment.
* We will review this policy annually to ensure it remains relevant and effective.

**8. Contact Information**
For further information or specific support requests, please contact NE Cycling CIC at [contact details].