

Young Leader Code of Conduct

The following Code of Conduct outlines the behaviour expected of young people aged under 18 who are leaders or assistant leaders in a variety of church-related settings.

These settings could include (but are not limited to) Sabbath Schools, Pathfinders, Adventurers, Playgroups, Vacation Bible Schools, Summer Camps, Big Camps and other ministry settings.



As a young leader I will:

1. cooperate with my leaders/supervisors by

- a. listening to and following instructions.
- b. working as part of a team.
- c. always being on time for activities and meetings.
- d. helping to resolve conflicts between team members, keeping the leader/supervisor informed of any issues that arise and escalating all serious matters as soon as possible.
- e. minimising the use of electronic devices, games and phones which may distract me from my leadership responsibilities.
- f. not accessing, sharing or creating any pictures, audios, film or video recordings which show nudity or sexual acts.
- g. ensuring that when assigned (as applicable) an area for sleeping, changing clothes, showering or toileting that I will use only these areas for these activities and will not visit areas assigned to other groups.
- h. only sharing information with children using the approved methods of communication which includes parents.

2. set a good example for children and youth in my care by

- a. not using offensive or abusive language.
- b. wearing appropriate protective and/or modest clothing as required for each activity.
- c. not using drugs, alcohol, tobacco or any other harmful or illegal substances.
- d. ensuring that all interpersonal relationships are appropriate in the church setting, and focusing on my leadership responsibilities rather than romantic interests when caring for children.
- e. not displaying actions of a romantic nature in the presence of children or youth.
- f. practicing healthy social behaviour within a group setting.

3. show care for the children and youth in my care by

- a. actively seeking ways to include those younger or not part of a group.
- b. prohibiting bullying and harassing behaviours.
- c. not engaging in rough physical play.
- d. not holding or kissing a child except for necessary touch such as when comforting in distress or to prevent injury.
- e. not spending time alone with a child.
- f. refraining from making sexually suggestive comments to a child including compliments about their physical appearance.
- g. not publishing unauthorized photos, movies or private or identifiable information of a child, including online, without parental/guardian consent.
- h. not showing or sharing sexually suggestive material to a child in any form such as email, text, movie or sound file.
- i. not assisting a child to do things of a personal nature that they can do for themselves.
- j. respecting their personal privacy at all times but particularly during times allocated (as applicable) for sleeping, changing of clothes, showering and toileting.
- k. encouraging them to talk to a leader or trusted adult if they do not feel safe.
- l. encouraging them to talk to a leader or trusted adult if they see someone else being hurt or at any risk of harm, or if they see anyone (adult or child) behaving in a way that goes against this Code of Conduct.

Young Leader

I have read the above Code of Conduct and will use this to guide my behaviour as a young leader. I also understand that if I do not follow this Code of Conduct, I may not be able to continue to participate in present or future activities.

Parent or Carer

As a parent/carer of a young leader, I have read the Code of Conduct above and understand that this outlines the expected behaviours for all young leaders. I understand that this Code will assist the leaders/supervisors to conduct a safe and incident free program. I further understand that breaches of this Code may affect my child's ongoing participation in a present activity, program, or future event.