

SAFER WORKING CODE OF CONDUCT

When your volunteering brings you in direct contact with children, volunteers must follow this code at all times:

- Do treat all children as being of worth and in a way that is respectful of them as individuals.
- Do treat all children equally.
- Do act as a role model - set an example through your own behaviour for children to follow.
- Do respect a child's right to personal privacy.
- Do allow children to take care of needs of a personal nature themselves or ask the appropriate person (e.g. parent) to assist them.
- Do encourage children to challenge attitudes or behaviour they are uncomfortable with.
- Do allow children to talk about any concerns they may have.
- Do work in a suitably open area with more than one other adult present, or at least within regular sight and hearing of others.
- Do avoid being drawn into inappropriate behaviour from the children, for example tantrums or crushes.
- Do set appropriate boundaries: both physical and emotional.
- Do not form a relationship with a child that is an abuse of your position of trust.
- Do not seek or agree to any form of contact with a child outside the agreed setting of your role.
- Do not take a child away from the agreed space without first checking with an appropriate person that it is acceptable to do so, and never off the premises.
- Do not give a child any kind of gift; do not allow a child to take anything from a session without first checking with an appropriate person that it is acceptable to do so.
- Do not engage in inappropriate behaviour with the children.
- Do not make inappropriate remarks or threats to, or in front of, a child, even in fun.
- Do not use any personal technology in sessions.
- Do not photograph or video a child unless specifically asked to by a session leader and with the permission of the child.
- Do not initiate or maintain inappropriate physical contact with a child.
- Remember actions and statements can be misinterpreted, no matter how innocent: do not rely just on your good name to protect you.
- Always consider if what you are doing and saying would pass the 'reasonable person' test.