

SAFEGUARDING BEHAVIOUR CODE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Why we have a safeguarding behaviour code

Our safeguarding behaviour code helps us to make sure that all children or adults at risk participating in our activities understand what is expected of them.

The Code will:

- explain the difference between acceptable and unacceptable behaviour.
- encourage everyone to be honest, fair, and respectful.
- help others to feel good about themselves.
- help everyone to understand the rights of others and the importance of kindness.
- encourage everyone to be responsible for their own behaviour.
- help overcome disagreements.
- make it clear what will happen if the behaviour code is not followed.

HOW SHOULD I BEHAVE?

You should always

- have good manners and treat everyone with respect.
- be friendly and helpful.
- listen to others and follow directions.
- be supportive to others
- be kind to others.
- respect other people's personal boundaries.

You should never

- be disrespectful to others.
- bully other people – in person or online.
- do dangerous things which could hurt you or others.
- behave in a way that could scare others or make them frightened.
- hurt anyone either physically or verbally.
- embarrass anyone or touch them sexually without their consent.

ALWAYS TALK TO STAFF OR VOLUNTEERS ABOUT ANYTHING THAT WORRIES YOU

The role of parents and carers

We believe that parents and carers are important in encouraging good behaviour and we will always try to involve them in decisions. We will always tell them if you receive a formal or final warning about your behaviour, unless doing so would put you in danger.

Sharing your information with others

In some situations, we may have to share the circumstances with other organisations such as social services, police or schools. This will follow information sharing rules and will only be done where necessary to make sure everyone is safe. We will ask for parental/carer permission where appropriate.

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What happens if I do not to follow the code of behaviour?

If your behaviour is abusive, dangerous or hurtful to others we may have to help support you to make better choices. All our decisions will be written down with a reason for any course of action.

Non serious or first-time incident

If you behave in a way that doesn't follow our behaviour code, our staff or volunteers will explain what is expected of you and ask you to change your behaviour. This gives you the chance to think and to plan how you could behave differently, with support from them.

Written warning

If poor behaviour is repeated or becomes more serious, it is likely that you will be given a formal warning by the person supervising your activity. They will explain to you what has happened and agree what support you may need to improve future behaviour. We may decide that further steps should be taken such as restricting you from taking part in some activities. It is likely your parents/carers will be told about the incident in a written warning.

Final warning

If the support we have put in place isn't helping you to change your behaviour, we may need to give you a final warning. We are likely to meet with your parents/carers where necessary. We may need to talk with you and your parents or carers about other services that might be more able to give you any extra support you may need. You could get a final warning before a formal warning if your behaviour is serious.

Exclusion

If we consider that your behaviour may seriously disrupt the activity or that you pose a danger to others, it may be necessary for us to exclude you. This will always be considered as a last resort and any such decision will be explained to you and your parents/carers. You could be excluded before having any warning if your behaviour is serious.

Examples

All outcomes will be proportionate and necessary. A problem-solving escalation approach will be taken in most cases.

Children repeatedly disrupting activities may be subject to an early parental/carer collection request.

Children involved in bullying behaviour may be subject to short reflective exclusions.

Children involved in serious incidents involving significant injury, sexual harm or discriminatory behaviour may result in permanent exclusion.