

YOUNG PEOPLE FIRST

It is the policy of The Scout Association to safeguard the welfare of all members by protecting them from physical, sexual, and emotional harm.

A Code of good practice for Adults in Scouting. Designed for you to keep with you - carry it.

Adults Code Of Behaviour

- Do** put the "Young People First" guidance into practice.
- Do** treat everyone with respect
- Do** provide an example you wish others to follow
- Do** plan activities which involve more than one other person being present, or at least which are within sight or hearing of others
- Do** respect a young person's right to personal privacy
- Do** have separate sleeping accommodation for leaders and young people
- Do** provide access for younger people to talk to others about any concerns they may have
- Do** encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable and caring enough to point out attitudes or behaviour they do not like
- Do** avoid situations that compromise your relationship with young people and are unacceptable within a relationship of trust (e.g. a relationship between a leader and a youth member over the age of consent)
- Do** remember that someone else might misinterpret your actions, no matter how well-intentioned
- Do** recognise that caution is required even in sensitive moments of counselling, such as when dealing with bullying, bereavement or abuse.

- Do NOT** permit abusive youth peer activities (eg initiation ceremonies, ridiculing, bullying)
- Do NOT** play physical contact games with young people
- Do NOT** have any inappropriate physical or verbal contact with others
- Do NOT** jump to conclusions about others without checking facts
- Do NOT** allow yourself to be drawn into inappropriate attention seeking behaviour such as tantrums or crushes
- Do NOT** exaggerate or trivialise child-abuse issues
- Do NOT** show favouritism to any individual
- Do NOT** make suggestive remarks or gestures, even in fun
- Do NOT** let suspicion, disclosure or allegation of abuse, go unrecorded or unreported
- Do NOT** rely on just your good name to protect you
- Do NOT** believe "it could never happen to me"