

Code of Conduct - declaration



Children's ministries

I will

- Act in accordance with the Wesleyan Methodist Church's People Protection and Risk Management policy at all times.
- Behave respectfully, courteously, and ethically towards children and their families and towards other staff.
- Listen and respond to the views and concerns of children, particularly if they communicate (verbally or non-verbally) that they do not feel safe or well.
- Promote the human rights, safety, and wellbeing of all children in our church.
- Demonstrate appropriate personal and relational boundaries.
- Consider and respect the diverse backgrounds and needs of children.
- Create an environment that promotes and enables children's participation and is supportive, culturally safe and welcoming for all children and their families.
- Involve children in making decisions about activities, policies and processes that concern them wherever possible.
- Contribute, where appropriate, to the church's policies, discussions, learning and reviews about child safety and wellbeing.
- Identify and mitigate risks to children's safety and wellbeing as required by the Wesleyan Methodist Church's risk assessment and management process.
- Respond to any concerns or complaints of child harm or abuse promptly and in line with the Church's Complaints Management policy and procedure.
- Report all suspected or disclosed child harm or abuse as required by our State/Territory law and by the Wesleyan Methodist Church's policy and procedure on internal and external reporting.
- Comply with the church's protocols on communicating with children.
- Comply with the Wesleyan Methodist Church's policies and procedures on record keeping and information sharing.

I will not

- Engage in any unlawful activity with or in relation to a child.
- Engage in any activity that is likely to harm a child physically, sexually, or emotionally.
- Unlawfully discriminate against any child or their family members.
- Be alone with a child unnecessarily.
- Arrange personal contact, including online contact, with children I am working with for a purpose unrelated to our church's activities.
- Disclose personal or sensitive information about a child, including images of a child, unless the child and their parent or legal guardian consent or unless I am required to do so by our church's policy and procedure on reporting.
- Use inappropriate language in the presence of children or show or provide children with access to inappropriate images or material.
- Work with children while under the influence of alcohol or prohibited drugs.
- Ignore or disregard any suspected or disclosed child harm or abuse.

Knowing that a breach of this Code of Conduct may have occurred, I will

- Act to prioritise the best interests of children.
- Take actions promptly to ensure that children are safe.
- Promptly report any concerns to my supervisor, the Pastor and our church's Safety Officer.
- Follow our church's policies and procedures for receiving and responding to complaints and concerns.
- Comply with our church's policy and procedure on internal and external reporting.

I agree to abide by this Code of Conduct during my service within the church. I will advise the Pastor if I fail to comply or can no longer abide by this commitment.

I understand that breaches of this Code of Conduct may lead to church discipline or termination of my service within the church.

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print name

signature

date

