

Parish of Effingham and Fetcham

Code of Conduct for Leaders and Helpers involved in Children's Liturgy of the Word

We are called upon to be exemplary models of moral behavior and spiritual faith.

Children's Liturgy leaders and helpers (including responsible adults aged 18+ years and responsible persons aged 16 and 17 years) are committed to being positive role models and building the confidence of children and young people that they are working with.

Leaders and helpers are expected to:

Promote Wellbeing

- Ensure the safety of all children by ensuring group sessions are safely planned and effectively supervised;
- Foster teamwork and co-operation between everybody, promoting trust and mutual respect;
- Discourage and stop rough or dangerous play, bullying, inappropriate language or other inappropriate behaviour;
- Be positive, approachable and offer praise to promote the objectives of the group always;
- Listen sensitively and encourage communication between adults and children.

Promote Autonomy & Dignity

- Promote the full participation and involvement of all children;
- Respect and listen to the opinions of children;
- Encourage children and young people to take responsibility for their own self-care as far as possible e.g. assistance with toileting and dressing.

Boundaries and Power

- Be conscious of explicit and implicit power vested in the role of group leader, supervisor or adult helper;
- Acknowledge the limitations of time, experience, skill and competence – know where and how to ask for support when needed;
- Deal with differences in opinion with respect.

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Personal Conduct

- Act always in accordance with the core values of the Catholic faith and ensure that their behavior does not bring the church into disrepute;
- Provide an example you wish others to follow;
- Work in a way that is honest, reliable and transparent, never seeking to deceive or manipulate;
- Refrain from using blasphemous, violent, discriminatory, or offensive language and behavior.

Any breaches of the Code of Conduct will be addressed by the group leader. More serious or persistent breaches may result in formal action being taken to address the concerns. All concerns or allegations in relation to the abuse of a child or adult at risk will be dealt with using the national safeguarding policy and procedures in relation to the management of allegations and concerns.

I have read and understood the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it.

Signature of Leader/Helper:	
Print name Leader/Helper:	
Date:	
Signature of Leader or Safeguarding Representative:	
Date	