



The Anglican Church of Bermuda

VOLUNTEER CODE OF CONDUCT

"Children are a gift from God. It is our job and their right that they should be protected."



As a volunteer I promise to strictly follow the rules and guidelines in this Code of Conduct as a condition of providing services to children and/or young people.

As a volunteer I will:

- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity and consideration.
- Avoid any situation where I am alone as an adult with children or young people, and if so make sure it is interruptible and observable by at least one other responsible adult.
- Use positive reinforcement rather than criticism, competition, or comparison when working with children or young people.
- Refuse to accept expensive gifts from children or young people, without prior approval from parents, guardians or administrators.
- Report suspected abuse to the administrator or appropriate supervisor or Church Safeguarding Person and to the Police or Family Services.
- Understand that failure to report to the local authorities, according to the law, it is mandated. (*See Children's Act 1988.*)
- Cooperate fully in any investigation of suspected abuse of children or young people.
- Make myself acquainted with the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy and abide by it.

As a volunteer I will not:

- Smoke or use tobacco products in the presence of children or young people.
- Use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol at any time while volunteering.
- Use, possess or be under the influence of any illegal drugs at any time.
- Pose any health risk to children or young people.
- Strike, spank, shake or slap any child or young person.
- Humiliate, ridicule, threaten or degrade any young person or child.
- Touch, view or photograph any child or young person in a sexual or other inappropriate manner; or ask them to view or touch me.
- Use any discipline that frightens or humiliates any child or young person.
- Use profanity in the presence of children or young person.
- Use text, email or private social media conversations with a child without including the parent or member of the organization.

I understand that as a volunteer working with children and/or young people, I am subject to a thorough background check including criminal history. I understand that any action inconsistent with this code of conduct, or failure to take action mandated with this code of conduct, may result in my removal as a volunteer with children and/or young people.

Volunteer printed name

Volunteer signed name

Date

One copy of this signed statement to be kept by the volunteer and one to the Bishop of Bermuda c/o his Executive Assistant