

Walton Youth Project



Code of Professional Conduct

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1. Relationship with and responsibility to children and young people

- Youth workers should at all times act in such a way as to promote and safeguard the well being and interest of children and young people for whom they are professionally accountable.
- Youth Workers must ensure that by no action or omission on their part children or young people's well being or safety is placed at risk.
- Youth workers should have regard to the customs, values and spiritual belief of children or young people.
- Youth workers must maintain a non-abusive environment in their work with children and young people and be aware of and clear about the professional parameters of their roles.
- Youth workers must conduct themselves and undertake their work in a caring manner. Confidential working practices are to be observed; if there is a legal requirement to divulge information, advice should be sought from line managers before responding.

2. Professional Integrity

- The highest standards of personal integrity are expected; youth workers must comply with the laws of the country.

- Youth workers must ensure that they uphold all policies of or related to Walton Youth Project. They must ensure that their professional responsibility and standards are not unduly influenced by consideration of age, disability, gender, nationality, race, religion, sexuality, social or economic status or status in society.
- Youth workers must not be under the influence of any toxic substance that impairs the performance of their duties.
- Youth workers must refuse to accept any gifts, favour or hospitality, which might be interpreted as seeking to exert undue influence to obtain advantage or preferential treatment.
- Youth workers must be courteous and respectful in approach to people.

3. Professional relationships and responsibility

- Youth workers should act at all times in such a manner as to justify public trust and confidence, to uphold and enhance the standing and reputation of the profession and to serve the public interest and interest of children and young people.
- Youth workers must maintain professional working relationships with colleagues and respect individual dignity.
- Loyalty within the profession cannot override one's responsibility as a member of society to uphold its moral and legal obligations. Youth workers must ensure that unethical conduct and illegal activities are reported to their employers through the relevant line manager.
- Youth workers should work in a collaborative and co-operative manner with other professional agencies and organisations to serve the best interest of children and young people.
- Youth workers should make known to their employers any conscientious objections they hold which may be relevant to their professional practice.

4. Professional standards

- Youth workers must be efficient in their work, seeking assistance or advice when necessary.
- Youth workers should have due regard to the workload of and pressure on professional colleagues and take appropriate action if these are seen to be such as to endanger safe standards of practice.
- Youth workers should have regard to physical working conditions and adequacy of resources and make the appropriate authority aware if these endanger standards of practice in any way.

- Youth workers must understand the implications of legislation relating to maintaining a safe environment particularly Health and Safety legislation, The Children's Act, Safeguarding Children and Young People and procedures related to transport and outdoor education.
- Youth workers must remain flexible and open to learning and change and take every reasonable opportunity to sustain and improve their knowledge and professional competence. They should promote the professional development and education of students and colleagues.
- Youth workers must carry out their work as agreed and in accordance with contracted / agreed terms and conditions.
- Youth workers must work together to ensure continuing professional standards and safety priorities in the unit, Area and wider Walton Youth Project.