

Behaviour Code for Young People

Ministry within the Church is about helping carry on the mission of Jesus. In order for Young People to carry on with this mission, it is important for them to be aware of the behaviours expected from the Archdiocese of Sydney. This Code has been developed to provide Young People aged 13 – 17 years with advice on the behaviour that is expected of them whilst participating in any ministry or when using the facilities of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

Young People ARE expected to display the following behaviours:

- Show respect and kindness when engaging with others
- Keep phones on silent whilst participating in ministry activities
- Let a trusted adult or parent know if you are unhappy with the way you are being treated or if you don't feel safe
- Listen to the opinions of others in a respectful way
- Be inclusive and welcoming to all
- Be open and encouraging of others when listening to the Word of God and attending liturgical celebrations
- Behave in a manner which promotes and contributes to a safe environment
- Show respect for the guidance provided by leaders
- "Own up" and accept personal responsibility for your mistakes

Young People MUST NOT engage in the following behaviour:

- Gossip or spread rumours about other people
- Bully or cyber-bully anyone or send threatening messages to another person
- Consume any alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs whilst participating in ministry activities
- Use disrespectful language towards another person
- Damage or steal things that do not belong to them
- Physically hurt or harm another individual
- Purposely cause disharmony whilst participating in ministry activities

If you, as a Young Person, display inappropriate behaviours whilst participating in ministry activities, then the following efforts will be made by your Youth Ministry Team Leader to resolve the issue:

1. They will discuss why the behaviour you are displaying is inappropriate. During this discussion you will be provided with support and guidance from your Youth Ministry Team Leader
2. They will ask you how you think the matter can be resolved
3. If your inappropriate behaviour continues, a meeting will be arranged with you, your parent/guardian and the Parish Priest to discuss your behaviour so an agreement can be made on how to manage your behaviour in the future



This Behaviour Code was developed with the help and support of the Young People of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney



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