

The [name of Triratna Buddhist Centre/enterprise] Child protection code of conduct 2020

As a Friend, Mitra or Order member and as an employee, volunteer, leader, teacher or parent involved with children aged under 18 visiting, or taking part in activities at, [name of Triratna Buddhist Centre/enterprise] in the course of activities run by [name of Triratna Buddhist Centre/enterprise]

I will do my best to

- treat all children and young people with respect and kindness.
- be an example of the good conduct I wish to see in young people and others.
- respect a young person's right to personal privacy.
- encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable and caring enough to point out attitudes or behaviour they do not like.
- remember that someone else might misinterpret my actions, no matter how well-intentioned
- be aware that physical contact with a child or young person may be misinterpreted.
- co-operate within the [x Buddhist Centre] Child protection policy.
- give guidance and support to less experienced helpers, colleagues and volunteers.
- challenge unacceptable behaviour and report all allegations/suspensions of abuse to the [x Buddhist Centre]'s Safeguarding officer, [name of Safeguarding officer].
- **ensure that, whenever possible, there is more than one adult present during activities with children or at least that we are within sight or hearing of others.**

This is for my own protection as well as for the protection of children and young people in our care.

[The following two sections have been rearranged and rewritten in places.]

I will not

- allow someone who is likely to pose a risk to children to have contact with children (ie someone known to have a conviction for sexual or violent offences, or someone who has disclosed a sexual interest in children).
- attempt to contact anyone under 15 by phone, text, email or social media.
- attempt to contact anyone 15-17 by phone, text, email or social media, without checking with our Safeguarding officer as to what terms have been agreed with the child's parent/guardian.
- have inappropriate physical or verbal contact with children or young people.
- attempt to contact anyone under 18 by phone, text, email or social media, without the permission of their parent or guardian.
- make suggestive or derogatory remarks or gestures in front of children or young people.
- exaggerate or trivialise child-abuse issues.
- rely on my good name or that of the [name of Triratna Buddhist Centre/enterprise] to protect me.
- assume "Things like that could never happen here" or "They would never do a thing like that."

I will do my best to avoid

- being alone in a room with a person under 18 out of sight or hearing of others.
- engaging in attention-seeking behaviour.
- jumping to conclusions without checking facts.
- showing favouritism to any child.

I have read the guidance above and agree to abide by it.

Name

Signature

Date

This document is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying [name of Triratna Buddhist Centre/enterprise] Child protection policy and the guidance document 'Care for teenagers in Triratna', currently being drafted.

*This model document published June 2019 by the Triratna Safeguarding Team, part of the Triratna Ethics Kula.
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