

The Youth Work Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics is our commitment as youth workers to young people. It's about making sure we always act in the best interests of the young people we support, keeping them safe and treating them with respect.

These are not just rules; they are a way of working that ensures young people feel heard, valued, and supported at every step.

We engage both online and offline with the same care, integrity, and respect, ensuring that young people are supported equally in all spaces.

By following these guidelines we build trust, create fairness, and help young people grow. When we commit to the code of ethics, we can be sure that everything we do helps the young people we work with become the best versions of themselves.

1. We uphold professional boundaries and safeguard young people, maintaining the highest standards of integrity in our work.

2. We empower young people to explore, grow, and actively shape their future and communities.

3. We encourage growth through curiosity and challenge, always prioritising safety and well-being.

4. We are fair, inclusive, and committed to equity and equality, creating diverse environments where everyone feels valued, differences are celebrated, and barriers to participation are actively removed.

5. We put young people first, never advancing ourselves at their expense.

6. We offer honest, non-judgmental, unbiased guidance to support young people's growth.

7. We collaborate with allied services and other agencies, encouraging multi-agency working.

8. We promote open reflection, and critical thinking, welcoming feedback from young people, colleagues, and others.

9. We listen to the voices, needs, and desires of young people, ensuring their perspectives shape our actions and responses, and build respect, trust, and empowerment.

10. We respect privacy and confidentiality, sharing information only with a clear purpose, consent, or as required by law.

11. We commit to lifelong learning, continuously developing our skills to ensure our work remains impactful and relevant to young people.

12. We engage both online and offline with the same care, integrity, and respect, ensuring young people are supported equally in all spaces.