

Eastside Church Child-Safe Code of Conduct

DO ...

DO Reflect the ethos of the Adventist Church

DO Behave as a positive role model to children and youth

DO Greet with a handshake, or ask before giving a hug, in situations where it is appropriate to do so

DO Treat all children with respect without showing favoritism

DO Use positive and affirming language toward children and young people

DO Intervene when children or young people are engaging in inappropriate bullying behaviour towards others or acting in a humiliating or vilifying way

DO Help provide an open, family-friendly environment for children to worship, interact, and socialize in where children have a voice in an age appropriate way

DO Alert someone if a breach of this code is seen

DO Report suspicions of child abuse or neglect to the Safe Place Leader or another trusted leader such as the pastor

DO Seek advice about suspicions and disclosures of child abuse or neglect by contacting the Child Protection Service in your area

(NZ—Child, Youth & Families (CYFs) 0508 326 459)

DO NOT ...

DON'T Engage in inappropriately rough physical play with a child or young person (not your own)

DON'T Use physical means to control or discipline a child (not your own), other than reasonable restraint such as by holding a child to mitigate injury

DON'T Hold, kiss, cuddle, or touch a child (not your own) in an age/culturally inappropriate manner OR in a manner considered inappropriate by reason of the nature of the program/activity/occasion, except for appropriate touch (e.g. to comfort distress)

DON'T Assist children (not your own) do things of a personal nature that they can do for themselves

DON'T Spend time alone or remain in a confined or secluded space with a child or young person (not your own) on Church property or other venues.

DON'T Make sexually suggestive comments to a child or young person

DON'T Make offensive or inappropriate comments to a child/ren regarding their appearance, abilities, or sexuality

DON'T Give personal gifts or favors that target a particular child (not your own)

DON'T Cultivate online and social media 'friendships' with children and young people (not your own) without: parental/guardian permission for communication; and parents/guardians/leaders being included on messaging lists. Any private messaging to a child or young person should be sent/returned during pre-approved times

DON'T Share or send sexually suggestive or explicit material to a child in any form such as email, text, movie or sound file

DON'T Use profane language near or around children

DON'T Take a child (not your own) to your home, or encourage private meetings outside of church activities, unless authorized to do so and suitable guidelines are in place

DON'T Take unauthorized photos or movies of a child on church property, or at church activities, without church authorization and the parental/guardian consent

DON'T Publish unauthorized photos or movies of a child, including online, without parental/guardian consent, nor post online unauthorized private information about a child that may identify them such as their: full name; age; email address; telephone number; residence; school; or details of a club or group they may attend

