

**8.1.9.2 APPENDIX 1.2 – CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YOUTH PROGRAM LEADERS**

Believing that God is calling me to serve children or youth in this congregation,

1. My first priority is prayerfully to seek the welfare of the children/youth and promote their healthy development spiritually, physically, socially, and educationally.
2. I will try to understand and respect the child's/youth's cultural background.
3. The activities for which I am responsible will be done to help children/youth grow in faith, become disciples of Christ, and develop loving, caring, and responsible ways of living.
4. I will keep parents informed about the program I am teaching and what time it begins and ends.
5. I will not knowingly do anything that will damage a child's/youth's trust, and I will try to protect the child/youth from all forms of abuse while he or she is in my care.
6. If I suspect that a child/youth may be hurt by the abusive actions or attitudes of another person, I will report that suspicion to a responsible person so that it can be investigated properly.
7. I will answer a child's/youth's questions openly and honestly.
8. I will work with the children/youth to set agreed guidelines for acceptable behaviour within the group, and expect them to act on the basis of agreed guidelines. If a child consistently breaks the guidelines, I will seek help from other youth leaders and parents to assist me in responding to the child.
9. I will try to offer comfort and help to a child/youth who is distressed and will encourage the child to find appropriate help for his/her needs.
10. I will ensure that, when I need to meet with a child/youth alone, the discussion will be in an open area such that others can at all times see me with the child. Furthermore, I will inform my activity supervisor and/or the parent(s) or guardian of such meetings.
11. I will endeavour to avoid focussing on one child repeatedly for praise or special attention.
12. I will pray for each child/youth regularly and let them know that I care about them.

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Signature

Date

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Volunteer/Staff position

Supervisor