

# SAFEGUARDING IN SCOUTING.

Young People First

## WORKING SAFELY WITH YOUNG PEOPLE TRAINING RESOURCE – QUIZ: PRESENTER’S NOTES

### IS THIS SAFE PRACTICE?

#### Note:

The scenarios are designed to promote discussion on a wide range of issues concerning safe practice. It is recommended that only a small number of the scenarios should be selected for use during any one training session.

#### Recommended method:

This activity suits small group work. Hand each group one or two different scenarios; ask them to discuss each scenario and to suggest what advice might be given. Groups then move round, discuss advice given by previous group(s) and add further comments of their own and/or query those made by previous group(s). On returning to the start point, each group is asked to select one scenario (eg the one that appeared to have caused the most debate) for further discussion. Presenter takes feedback in plenary.

SCENARIO		POINTS TO CONSIDER
1	Ushering a seriously disruptive Scout out of the Troop meeting room.	<p>Try to diffuse situations before they escalate.</p> <p>Ensure you do not use physical force as a form of punishment.</p> <p>You may legitimately intervene in order to prevent a young person injuring themselves or others.</p> <p>Do consider the health and safety of others and yourself.</p> <p>Always use minimum force for the shortest period necessary.</p> <p>Do not use sarcasm, demeaning or insensitive comments.</p> <p>Act in sight and hearing of others.</p> <p>Record and report any situations that may give rise to concern.</p> <p>Keep parents informed of action taken and any sanctions.</p>

2	<b>Taking a detour when transporting a young person home.</b>	<p>Avoid all situations that put you at risk of your actions being misinterpreted or misconstrued.</p> <p>Be aware that conferring special attention and favour upon a young person might be construed as being part of a 'grooming' process.</p> <p>Do not drive a young person home on your own other than in exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>Ensure others are aware of the nature of the journey, your route and expected time of arrival.</p>
3	<b>Having a sexual relationship with a (very mature, sexually active) 17-year-old Explorer Scout.</b>	<p>Be aware that you are in a position of trust in relation to the young people in your care.</p> <p>A relationship between a leader and a youth member in their care cannot be a relationship between equals.</p> <p>Leaders have a responsibility to ensure that an unequal balance of power is not used for personal advantage or gratification.</p> <p>A sexual relationship between a leader and a youth member in their Group/Unit is unacceptable; even when the young person is over the age of consent and emotionally mature.</p>
4	<b>Flirting with a Scout who you suspect has a crush on you.</b>	<p>Adults should not allow themselves to be drawn into inappropriate attention seeking behaviour.</p> <p>Such circumstances carry a high risk of words or actions being misinterpreted and for allegations to be made.</p> <p>Always report any indications (verbal, written or physical) that suggest a young person may be infatuated with an adult in Scouting.</p>
5	<b>Sitting a distressed Beaver Scout on your knee to comfort them.</b>	<p>Adults should carefully consider the way in which they offer comfort and reassurance to a distressed young person.</p> <p>This may include age-appropriate physical contact providing it is in open view of others.</p> <p>Remain self-aware in order that contact is not threatening, intrusive or subject to misinterpretation.</p> <p>Record and report any situations that may give rise to concern.</p>
6	<b>Telling a Scout that they won't ever come to anything.</b>	<p>All young people have a right to be treated with respect and dignity.</p> <p>The use of sarcasm, demeaning or insensitive comments is not acceptable in any situation.</p>
7	<b>Reporting confidential information about a young person to another leader.</b>	<p>Adults are expected to treat information they receive about young people in a discreet and confidential manner.</p> <p>If in any doubt about sharing information that is held, or has been requested, seek advice.</p>
8	<b>Giving a Cub Scout your personal mobile telephone number.</b>	<p>Adults should not establish or seek to establish contact with youth members for the purpose of securing a friendship or to pursue or strengthen a relationship</p> <p>All arrangements for activities for under 11 year olds should be made by contacting parents direct.</p>

9	<p><b>Jokingly telling a Scout 'I'll break your leg if you don't stop messing about with that ball'.</b></p>	<p>Adults should not make suggestive or threatening remarks or gestures, even in fun.</p> <p>Under no circumstances should physical force be used as a form of punishment.</p> <p>Always seek to diffuse situations before they escalate.</p>
10	<p><b>Assisting a young person with toileting.</b></p>	<p>All young people have right to safety, privacy and dignity.</p> <p>Young people should be encouraged to act as independently as possible and undertake as much of their own personal care as is practicable.</p> <p>When assistance is required, ensure that another adult is in the vicinity and is aware of the task to be undertaken.</p> <p>A care plan should be drawn up and agreed with parents for all young people who require intimate care on a regular basis.</p>
11	<p><b>Viewing indecent images of young people, privately, at home.</b></p>	<p>The term 'child pornography' is commonly used to describe what in reality are images of young people being abused.</p> <p>Adults should not behave in a manner that would lead any reasonable person to question their suitability to look after young people or act as a role model.</p> <p>Under no circumstances should they access indecent images of young people via the internet or in any other format.</p> <p>Such activity will lead to a criminal prosecution.</p>
12	<p><b>Hugging a Scout who has given a fantastic performance in the District gang show.</b></p>	<p>There are occasions when it is entirely appropriate for adults to have physical contact with youth members, but it is essential they do so in ways that are appropriate.</p> <p>Be aware that even well intentioned physical contact may be misconstrued by the young person, or observer, or by anyone to whom this action is described.</p> <p>Never engage in horseplay, tickling, fun fights, or touch a young person in a way that may be considered intrusive or indecent.</p>
13	<p><b>Wearing a T-shirt with a 'FCUK' logo.</b></p>	<p>Adults should wear clothing that promotes a positive image.</p> <p>They should ensure they are dressed decently, safely and appropriate for the tasks they undertake.</p>
14	<p><b>Arranging for an individual Scout to stay behind after the Troop meeting.</b></p>	<p>Avoid unobserved one to one contact with a young person. When this is unavoidable, ensure other people can see and hear you.</p> <p>Always plan activities that involve more than one other person being present or least are within sight and hearing of others.</p>
15	<p><b>Entering into a spontaneous discussion about sex with a group of Explorer Scouts.</b></p>	<p>Adults should exercise careful judgment before engaging in unplanned discussion about subject matter of a sexually explicit or otherwise sensitive nature, and then only with extreme care and with support available.</p> <p>Never enter into or encourage inappropriate or offensive discussion about sexual activity.</p>

16	<p>Standing behind a young person to demonstrate the use of archery equipment.</p>	<p>Adults should avoid initiating physical contact with young people when demonstrating the use of equipment/first aid, etc.</p> <p>Consider alternatives, perhaps involving another adult in the demonstration</p> <p>On occasions where it is necessary to support a young person so that they can perform a task safely, contact should be for the minimum time necessary and should take place within the view and hearing of others.</p>
17	<p>Having a Cub Scout, whose parents return from holiday a day after Cub camp ends, stay overnight at your home for supervision purposes.</p>	<p>It is not advisable to take on supervisory duties in these kinds of circumstances.</p> <p>In any arrangements regarding the supervision of young people, it is essential to balance the purpose of the arrangement with the need to safeguard and protect the well being of all parties.</p> <p>As a general rule adults should never take a young person to their house. In any situation that a clear and proper part of their role, adults put themselves at risk.</p>
18	<p>Supervising children getting undressed for swimming.</p>	<p>Young people are entitled to respect and privacy when changing clothes/getting undressed.</p> <p>Supervision should be appropriate to the needs and age of the young people concerned</p> <p>Adults should avoid any physical contact when young people are in a state of undress.</p> <p>They should avoid any visually intrusive behaviour and where there are changing rooms announce their intention of entering.</p> <p>Adults should not change in the same place as young people.</p>
19	<p>Taking photographic or other images of Cubs, in order to create a scrapbook or video diary.</p>	<p>Careful consideration needs to be given as to how photographs/videos are organised and undertaken.</p> <p>Other leaders should be aware of what is going on and for what purpose.</p> <p>Using images for publicity purposes will require the age-appropriate consent of the individual concerned and their parents/carers.</p>
20	<p>Giving a Scout personal equipment or clothing.</p>	<p>Adults should only give gifts to an individual young person as part of an agreed reward system.</p> <p>It is not advisable to give personal gifts to youth members as it could be misinterpreted as gesture either to bribe, or single out a young person.</p>
21	<p>Sharing a room with Explorer Scouts on a residential trip.</p>	<p>Adults should not share sleeping accommodation with young people, including Young Leaders helping in a younger section.</p> <p>Parents and carers cannot consent to this or any other procedure for safeguarding members to be overruled.</p> <p>Parents, young people and all those involved in a nights away should be aware of the sleeping arrangements prior to the start of the activity.</p>
22	<p>Giving medication to a Beaver Scout.</p>	<p>Adults should ensure that another adult is present, or aware of the action being taken.</p> <p>Ensure they have received appropriate training before administering first aid or medication.</p> <p>Where young people need medication regularly, a health plan should be drawn up to ensure the safety and protection of all parties.</p> <p>With the permission of parents young people should be encouraged to administer the medication themselves.</p>