*Nottingham Buddhist Centre*

**Child Protection Code of Conduct 2023**

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 *Nottingham Buddhist Centre*

**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 *Nottingham Buddhist Centre* Child protection policy.
* give guidance and support to less experienced helpers, colleagues and volunteers.
* challenge unacceptable behaviour and report all allegations/suspicions of abuse to the *Nottingham Buddhist Centre*’s Safeguarding officer, *Nottingham Buddhist Centre*.
* **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.

**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 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~~.~~
* 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 *Nottingham Buddhist Centre* 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 Nottingham Buddhist Centre Child Protection Policy 2023 and ‘Caring for Teenagers in Triratna 2023’.* https://thebuddhistcentre.com/search/node/safeguarding