## ***S4.7 Code of Behaviour for Adults***

**It is important for all personnel to:**

* Treat all children with respect and dignity;
* Treat all children equally;
* Model positive, appropriate behaviour to all children with whom we come in contact;
* Be aware of the Church’s child protection and child safeguarding policy;
* Challenge and report abusive and potentially abusive behaviour;
* Develop a culture of openness, honesty and safety;
* Develop a culture where children have permission to tell
and to talk about any concerns or worries that they may have;
* Respect each child’s boundaries and support them
to develop their own understanding and sense of their rights;
* Be aware of their responsibility for the safety of all children in their care;
* Work in open environments;
* Help children to know what they can do if they have a problem.

**Adults must never:**

* Hit or otherwise physically assault or abuse children;
* Develop sexual relationships with children;
* Develop relationships with children that could in any way be deemed exploitative or abusive;
* Act in any way that may be abusive or may place a child at risk of abuse;
* Use language, make suggestions or offer advice that is inappropriate, offensive or abusive;
* Do things for a child of a personal nature that they can do themselves;
* Watch or supervise a child undressings, or assis a child undressing e.g. in swimming pools or on
international pilgrimages, such as Lourdes baths. (see separate guidance 1.4F Guidance on participation
of Children with specific needs)
* Condone or participate in behaviour that is illegal, unsafe or abusive;
* Act in any way that is intended to intimidate, shame, humiliate, belittle or degrade;
* Engage in discriminatory behaviour or language in relation to race, culture,
age, gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation or political views;
* Consume alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs while having responsibility for
or in the presence of children/young people.

**In general, it is inappropriate to:**

* Take children away or to your own home, especially where they will be alone with you;
* Involve children in one-to-one contact; activities should usually be supervised by at least two adults. However, there may be two circumstances where this may occur:
	+ In a **reactive** situation, for example when a child requests a one-to-one meeting with you without warning, or where a child has had to be removed from a group as part of a code of behaviour (1.5)
	+ As part of a planned structured piece of work (for example one-to-one music tuition).

See 1.13 for safe practices if either of these situations occur.

***By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understood and accepted this Code of Behaviour.***

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_