

Code of conduct for Young People for online engagement with [church name]:

- All engagement and activities must be covered by appropriate consent and be by prior arrangement.
- Whenever possible make sure someone else is in the house (or close vicinity) while you are engaging online – preferably a parent/guardian
- Don't post any personal information online – e.g. address or mobile number
- Think carefully before posting pictures or videos of yourself or others (and only with their permission)
- Keep your privacy settings as high as possible
- Don't befriend people you do not know
- Don't meet up with people you've met online (at least not alone & not in a private space)
- Think carefully about what you say before you post something online – it can be misconstrued or interpreted in a way you didn't intend
- Respect other people's views, even if you don't agree with them, it doesn't mean you need to be rude
- Immediately report anything that makes you uncomfortable in any way to an appropriate adult such as parent or youth leader.

I agree to abide by this code of conduct:

Name:

Date:

Code of conduct for children and families for online engagement with [name of church]:

- All engagement and activities must be covered by appropriate consent and be by prior arrangement.
- Children must only engage online when a parent or guardian is present in the room, and do so through the parent or guardian's contact details
- Don't post any personal information online – e.g. address or mobile number
- Think carefully before posting pictures or videos of yourself or others (and only with their permission)
- Keep your privacy settings as high as possible
- Don't befriend people you don't know
- Don't meet up with people you've met online (at least not alone & not in a private space)
- Think carefully about what you say before you post something online – it can be misconstrued or interpreted in a way you didn't intend
- Respect other people's views, even if you don't agree with them, it doesn't mean you need to be rude
- Immediately report anything that makes you uncomfortable in any way to an appropriate adult such as children's worker, church elder etc

We agree to abide by this code of conduct:

Name(s) of parent(s)/guardian(s):

Name(s) of child/children:

Date:

Code of Conduct for working with children or young people online

All workers of the church should agree to the following code of conduct when working with children and young people online, in addition to the URC code of conduct for working with children and young people which states:

- ***Do make sure that any electronic communication is done with parental consent and is transparent, accountable, recorded and adheres to safeguarding policies. Using church platforms and not private accounts***

Do ensure that all types of online communication and activity you engage with have been formally approved by your line manager / team leader / Eldership.

Do ensure that you are familiar with the church's online safety policy.

Do inform your line manager/team leader/Eldership of your intention to communicate online with families or young people and keep a record of who was involved, times and dates when you do this. Also keep a record of any significant content.

Do ensure that you have parental consent for every type of online communication and activity you engage with – if need be issue multiple consent forms (as for other activities and events). If signed consent forms are difficult to obtain, confirm emailed consent by phone/video call and keep a register of consent given (when, by whom, for what).

Do ensure that any communication online is done through a work account and do not engage with children or young people through your personal social media or mobile account – this may require setting up an extra account for that purpose

Do, where possible, ensure parents or guardians are present in the building where young people are communicating with you via social media. Communication with a child via social media should only ever take place when their parent or guardian is present in the room and can see and hear all interactions.

Do, where possible, ensure that another adult is present in the room with you if communicating 1:1 via social media with a child or young person, or ensure that a second leader is present online and communicate in a group chat environment. Do not use private messaging.

Do ensure any images or videos from online engagement is stored in the safe place designated by the church and not on your personal accounts or equipment.

Do ensure you have clear parental and participant consent before sharing any content from online engagement more widely, and only use them in the ways agreed, in line with URC good practice guidelines.

Do report any attempt by children, young people or families to contact you through your personal accounts and profiles and block any further contact.

I [name of worker] agree to abide by the above code of conduct while working with children and young people online on behalf of..... [church name]

Signed:

Date: