Code of Respect

A conduct agreement between volunteers and GB families

The Girls' Brigade offers girls and young women a safe place where they can have fun, develop friendships, and build their skills and confidence. Everyone is welcome - we are person-centred and find ways of making reasonable adjustments so everyone can be included.

All our volunteers are trusted adults and have gone through safer recruitment checks (including DBS). They have all been trained in safeguarding, health & safety and risk assessments. A trained first aider is present at all meetings and events.

We expect staff and volunteers to be polite and kind to parents, carers and children, and we expect parents and carers to be polite and kind to our volunteers and our staff. Verbal abuse will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Whenever concerns about behaviour are raised, we will look into the matter. If behaviour is found to have been inappropriate, then a risk assessment will be undertaken and appropriate actions will be put in place immediately to ensure that abuse does not re-occur in the future.

Sometimes issues cannot be resolved locally. If this is the case either the parents and carers or the leaders at the group should raise a complaint with the Girls' Brigade Support Centre nationally by emailing GBCO@gb-ministries.org. You can see the complaints policy in Life to the Full should you wish to refer to it.

This is The Girls' Brigades commitment to the girls and young women in our care, and to their parents or carers.

We will:

- Deliver engaging and relevant programme
- Provide a safe environment for learning and growth
- Encourage each child to try their best
- Model high standards of behaviour
- Treat all children fairly
- Help all children develop a sense of responsibility, politeness, and consideration of others
- Encourage good attendance, punctuality, and presentation.
- Celebrate the young people's achievements based on their own level of ability and growth
- Be approachable to all children and parents/carers
- Give termly updates on how each child is progressing and what they're achieving
- Bring any concerns to parents/carers attention immediately

We request that parents and carers will:

- Encourage your child to try their best
- Encourage good attendance, punctuality, and presentation.
- Encourage your child to engage in any journals, challenges or activities sent home
- Support your child and GB group by attending achievement events and meetings
- Support the group by making sure your child maintains good behaviour
- Support the volunteers in their efforts to create a safe, fun, and caring environment for all children
- Treat all volunteers and staff with respect and politeness
- Bring any concerns to the Team Leader's attention immediately

