

ACT 1 THEATRE GROUP

BEHAVIOUR CODE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE



January 2020

Purpose

This code of behaviour was written in consultation with children and young people. It aims to make sure everyone who participates in our services knows what is expected of them and feels safe, respected and valued.

Ben Clark must make sure that everyone taking part in our services has seen, understood and agreed to follow the code of behaviour, and that they understand the consequences of inappropriate behaviour.

Basic principles

This code of behaviour aims to:

- identify acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
- encourage cooperation, honesty, fairness and respect
- create an environment where your self-esteem, self-respect and self-confidence will grow
- encourage you to recognise and respect the rights of others
- encourage you to take responsibility for your own behaviour
- help resolve conflicts and make it clear what will happen if you decide not to follow the code.

Dos and don'ts

You should:

- cooperate with others
- be friendly
- listen to others
- be helpful
- have good manners
- treat everyone with respect
- take responsibility for your own behaviour
- talk to chaperones about anything that worries or concerns you

- follow this code of behaviour and other rules (including the law)
- join in and have fun!

You shouldn't:

- be disrespectful to anyone else
- bully each other (online or offline)
- behave in a way that could be intimidating
- be abusive towards anyone.

What happens if I decide not to follow the code of behaviour?

This code of behaviour is part of a process for making sure everyone who participates in our services receives appropriate support.

Minor or first-time incident

If you behave inappropriately, staff or volunteers will remind you about the code of behaviour and ask you to comply with it. They will give you an opportunity to change your behaviour. This gives you the chance to reflect and to plan a positive response with support from staff and/or volunteers.

Following the traffic light system

1. If you continue to behave inappropriately after your first reminder, or if your behaviour is more serious, you will be given a formal, green light warning by Ben Clark.

Ben Clark will record the incident and inform your parents or carers. She will also talk with you about what happened and agree what support you need to improve your behaviour in the future.

2. If you continue to behave inappropriately after the green light warning, you will be given a formal amber light warning by Ben Clark. We may also decide that a sanction is appropriate such as restricting you from using certain facilities. Again, Ben Clark will record the incident and inform your parents or carers. She will also talk with you about what happened and agree what support you need to improve your behaviour in the future.

3. If the support we have put in place isn't helping you to change your behaviour, Ben Clark may need to give you a formal red light warning. She will record the incident and inform your parents or carers. At this point, we may need to talk with you and your parents about other services that might be more able to give you the support you need.

Child protection procedures

If any member of staff or volunteer becomes concerned that your behaviour suggests you may be at risk of significant harm or that you may present a risk of significant harm to other

children, they will follow child protection procedures. This may involve making a referral to the local authority children's social care department.

If child protection procedures are necessary we will talk this through with you and your parents as soon as possible, unless doing so would endanger your safety or interfere with a police investigation.

The role of parents and carers

We see parents and carers as valuable partners in promoting positive behaviour and will involve them as appropriate.

We will always inform and involve your parents or carers if you receive a formal warning for inappropriate behaviour