

General Dos and Dont's for Leaders

Do not:

- Spend excessive amounts of time with one child/young person away from the others.
- Take children/young people to your home or other place where you will be alone with them.
- Allow or engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay.
- Allow or engage in any form of sexual innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures and terms.
- Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching.
- Allow children or young people to use inappropriate language unchallenged.
- Make sexually suggestive comments to either a child/young person, or to someone else in the child/young person's presence, even in fun.
- Do things of a personal nature for children or young people that they can do for themselves.
- Allow allegations made by a child or young person to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon.
- Show favouritism to anyone.
- Allow abusive peer group activities such as initiations or bullying.

Do:

- Provide a good example of acceptable behaviour.
- Always be public and open when working with children/young people.
- Avoid situations where a leader and a cadet are completely unobserved.
- Make sure there are separate sleeping accommodations for young people.
- Avoid situations that compromise your relationship with young people and are unacceptable within a relationship of trust (e.g. a personal relationship between a cadet Leader and a young person over the age of consent).
- Recognise the boundaries between personal and professional life.
- Respect everyone's right to personal privacy.
- Respect everyone as an individual.
- Make sure your actions cannot be misunderstood or cause offence.
- Promote and ensure the welfare of young people.
- Recognise that you are accountable to the girls/boys, their parents/carers and the VPC.
- Conduct any first aid or treatment of a cadet in the presence of an appropriate adult or other leader or person of the same sex as the casualty, obtaining verbal consent, if possible from them. (Signed, informed, parental consent must be obtained before the planned event or activity).