



## Safeguarding Code of Behaviour for adults

All adults involved in DofE activities should follow this DofE Safeguarding Code of Behaviour. You must also be familiar with the steps to be taken in the event of becoming aware of, suspecting or receiving allegations of harm or risk of harm to young people (which may include physical, sexual or emotional abuse, or neglect, harassment or bullying).

### **All adults involved with the DofE Charity and programme activities must at all times:**

- Treat everyone with respect regardless of race, age, gender, ethnic or national origins, disability, sexual orientation or religion and beliefs.
- Act as a good role model of appropriate behaviour.

### **All adults involved with the DofE Charity and programme activities must also:**

- Ensure at least one other person is present when working with young people or at least be within sight or hearing of others.
- Remember that their actions, remarks and gestures can be misinterpreted, no matter how well intentioned.
- Provide separate sleeping accommodation for DofE Leaders and participants during expeditions and residential activities.
- Provide access to a suitable adult for participants to talk through any concerns they may have.
- Encourage participants to feel comfortable enough to point out attitudes or behaviour they do not like.
- Recognise that caution is required when dealing with bullying, bereavement, abuse and other sensitive issues.
- Save all electronic communication with young people. This should be for a period of at least six months or, if a safeguarding or child protection issue is involved, until such times as the issue has been fully resolved.
- Not permit abusive youth peer activities (e.g. initiation ceremonies, ridiculing, bullying, cyber bullying, sexting, harassment, etc.).
- Not have any inappropriate physical, verbal or electronic/online contact with others.
- Not jump to conclusions about others or show favouritism.
- Not allow themselves to be drawn into reacting to inappropriate attention seeking behaviour such as tantrums or crushes.
- Not exaggerate or trivialise harassment or child abuse issues.
- Not be impaired by substance use (whether alcohol or prescribed or illegal drugs) or by emotional issues.