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## Unit Code of Conduct

The following document comprises a series of guidelines on a number of topical issues considered important by the Unit. This document was created by the Unit, for the benefit of the young people in the Unit and is designed to be reviewed annually by the Unit members.

These guidelines describe what actions, language and dress code that the Unit Members feel is acceptable and, what is not acceptable.

The guidelines list the action that will be taken if these rules are broken or ignored by any member.

The Unit will “self police” these policies.

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## Language

No swearing at any leader, helper or other adult at any time is considered appropriate.

No personal abuse to any fellow Explorer Scout is permitted

***Punishment: a reprimand by Leader and a reminder of these rules***

## Alcohol

No unit youth member is to bring alcohol to any function. Beer, Cider and wine is considered acceptable by Unit members. All spirits (cocktails, alcopops) are not acceptable.

The appropriate place for the consumption of alcohol (with parental permission) would be at a Unit Social function e.g. our Birthday Review or possibly with a meal when on camp.

Permission must be sought from a leader and the alcohol consumed in the same room as the leader.

This alcohol policy applies when members are away as young leaders with other sections or by themselves on an Explorer function

***Punishment: next function is to be alcohol free for those concerned***

## Bullying

Is considered totally unacceptable at any time. Bullying can be physical, verbal or mental. Cyber bullying (e mail, text message, MSN, Facebook, Bebo, Myspace) is unacceptable.

All incidences of bullying are to be reported to a leader.

***Punishment: on a case by case basis, but probable suspension***



## Drugs

“Recreational or harmful” drugs are not permitted on any Unit activity at any time.

***Punishment:***            ***on a case by case basis: 1<sup>st</sup> offence, Unit leader and Parents to be involved 2<sup>nd</sup> offence, Parents and Police to be involved.***

## Smoking

Is permitted for those members who are 16 or older and in the appropriate place – outdoors, and in a designated smoking area – i.e. away from everyone else. However, event leaders and fellow Explorers wishes must be taken into account.

Smoking is not permitted when in uniform.

***Punishment:***            ***1<sup>st</sup> offence, a reprimand by Leader and a reminder of these rules. 2<sup>nd</sup> offence, suspension.***

## Protocol when “on parade”.

“On parade” is defined as – start and end of Unit Meeting; District or Area function (or similar). Everyone is to look appropriate and make good use of one’s time. Uniform to be worn with buttons done up and necker/woggle worn appropriately. Talking, pushing and general “mucking around” is considered unacceptable.

***Punishment:***            ***1<sup>st</sup> offence, a reprimand by Leader and a reminder of these rules. 2<sup>nd</sup> offence, left out of next activity.***



## Sex

The 2004 “sexual behavior act” states that it is illegal for anyone under 16 (consenting or otherwise) to engage in acts of sexual intercourse. Sex on any Scouting activity is to be discouraged – however, please be safe! Consult a leader, parent or friend if you have any questions or concerns. No boyfriends / girlfriends to share same tent.

**Punishment:** *1<sup>st</sup> offence, a reprimand by Leader and a reminder of these rules. 2<sup>nd</sup> offence, left out of next activity.*

## Attendance / Communication / Response

The Unit runs a balanced programme over 12 months with many activities and camps. The leadership team accepts that it is not always possible to make every meeting – however, please try and let a leader know if you are unable to make an activity.

Communication is carried out in a number of ways – a programme is issued at the beginning of every term; it is also published on our web site. In addition to the programme, a text message is sent to every youngster and parent every Sunday detailing that week’s activity. If this message asks for a reply – it is very important that you respond with a yes or no. Certain activities are limited by numbers.

**Action:** *If you do not respond and subsequently turn up, you will not be able to participate in that activity.*

## General Do’s and Don’ts

Do wear uniform, polo shirts or hoodys to every meeting unless told otherwise.

Do take an active part in activities and meetings – or please go home.

Do tell people if you can’t make meetings

Don’t leave it until the last minute to find out what is going on

Don’t let games get out of hand

Do act in a mature way

Do have fun!