

## Appendix E. Code of Conduct for Minors

**1. Introduction.** The Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City is committed to the protection of children and young people and establishing a safe environment in which they worship, recreate, and learn so as to grow into responsible Christian adults. The intent of this Code of Conduct is to promote responsible behavior and Christian values that create an orderly, nurturing and safe environment.

**2. Rights and Responsibilities.** Rights are those things we are entitled to have. Responsibilities are the actions that are expected as a result of those rights.

A. Children and young people have the **right** to:

- 1) a safe environment;
- 2) receive the best formation program to meet their needs;
- 3) feel secure from physical, verbal, and written harassment;
- 4) be treated in a fair, consistent, and respectful manner;
- 5) receive instruction and assistance for social, emotional, and academic concerns; and
- 6) a clean and pleasant environment.

B. Children and young people have a **responsibility** to:

- 1) share experiences in safe and pleasant surroundings;
- 2) maintain attendance that is regular and punctual;
- 3) act safely in everyone's interest;
- 4) accept responsibility for their actions;
- 5) practice good health habits;
- 6) be honest and polite;
- 7) not interfere with the leader's facilitation and the experience of others;
- 8) show respect for the rights, feelings, and property of others;
- 9) seek help for social, emotional, and academic concerns;
- 10) adhere to rules during any related activities;
- 11) work through a decision making process with staff to explore alternative behaviors which are acceptable and more appropriate, when required;
- 12) respect ethnic, racial, religious, gender, intellectual, and physical diversities of all people; and
- 13) report discreetly any inappropriate behavior to a responsible adult.

C. **Behavior.**

- 1) Reverence, Respect, Responsibility. All behavior should be guided by reverence for life, respect for self, others, and property, and taking responsibility for one's actions.
- 2) Behavioral standards should encourage self-discipline, create an atmosphere based on love, respect and cooperation, and provide a safe, positive and well-ordered environment.

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D. **Offenses.** The following behavior does not contribute to a safe, respectful Christian environment and will not be tolerated:

- 1) causing physical harm (fighting, throwing objects, using or distributing drugs, weapons, etc.).
- 2) causing psychological harm (intimidation, threats, etc.).
- 3) using a tone or gesture of disrespect or that is abusive (profanity, harassment, etc.).
- 4) showing disrespect to adults or authority (insubordination, unwillingness to obey, etc.)
- 5) showing disrespect for property (vandalism, theft, etc.).
- 6) demonstrating irresponsible behavior (being unreasonable, repeated violations, unwillingness to change, etc.).
- 7) harassing others (verbal abuse, bullying, inappropriate touching, etc.).
- 8) being dishonest (lying, cheating, etc.).