

## **The Ipswich Buddhist Centre Child protection code of conduct 2022**

As a Friend, Mitra or Order member and as an employee, volunteer, leader, teacher or parent involved with children aged under 18 visiting, or taking part in activities at, the Ipswich Buddhist Centre in the course of activities run by the Ipswich Buddhist Centre

### **I will do my best to**

- treat all children and young people with respect and kindness.
- be an example of the good conduct I wish to see in young people and others.
- respect a young person's right to personal privacy.
- encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable and caring enough to point out attitudes or behavior they do not like.
- remember that someone else might misinterpret my actions, no matter how well-intentioned
- be aware that physical contact with a child or young person may be misinterpreted.
- co-operate within the Ipswich Buddhist Centre Child protection policy.
- give guidance and support to less experienced helpers, colleagues and volunteers.
- challenge unacceptable behaviour and report all allegations/suspensions of abuse to the Ipswich Buddhist Centre's Safeguarding officers, John Cook (Ariyanivata) & Carol Vasey (Carumani)
- **ensure that, whenever possible, there is more than one adult present during activities with children or at least that we are within sight or hearing of others.**  
This is for my own protection as well as for the protection of children and young people in our care.

### **I will not**

- allow someone who is likely to pose a risk to children to have contact with children (ie someone known to have a conviction for sexual or violent offences, or someone who has disclosed a sexual interest in children).
- attempt to contact anyone under 15 by phone, text, email or social media.
- attempt to contact anyone 15-17 by phone, text, email or social media, without checking with our Safeguarding officer as to what terms have been agreed with the child's parent/guardian.
- have inappropriate physical or verbal contact with children or young people.
- attempt to contact anyone under 18 by phone, text, email or social media-
- make suggestive or derogatory remarks or gestures in front of children or young people.
- exaggerate or trivialise child-abuse issues.
- rely on my good name or that of the Trustees of Triratna Buddhist Centre, Ipswich to protect me.
- assume "Things like that could never happen here" or "They would never do a thing like that."

### **I will do my best to avoid**

- being alone in a room with a person under 18 out of sight or hearing of others.
- engaging in attention-seeking behavior.
- jumping to conclusions without checking facts.
- showing favoritism to any child.

I have read the guidance above and agree to abide by it.

**Name**

**Signature**

**Date**

*This document is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying [Ipswich Buddhist Centre Child Protection Policy 2022 and the guidance document 'Caring for Teenagers in Ipswich Buddhist Centre 2022.*

