



# *Code of Conduct For Adults in Scouting*

## Leader Support Guide

This Code of Conduct is expected of all adults, members and Associates, uniformed and non-uniformed, who work within the Movement, recognising that at all times they should act responsibly and exercise a Duty of Care.

1. Adults in Scouting respect the dignity of themselves and others.
2. Adults in Scouting demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility, recognising that at all times their words and actions are an example to other members of the Movement.
3. Adults in Scouting act at all times in accordance with Scouting Principles, thereby setting a suitable example for all.
4. Adults in Scouting do not use the Movement to promote their own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are not compatible with Scouting Principles.
5. Adults in Scouting act with consideration and good judgement in all interpersonal relationships both inside and outside Scouting.
6. Adults in Scouting respect everyone's right to personal privacy at all times. They take special care where sleeping, changing of clothing, bathing and ablutions are associated with any Scouting activity.
7. Adults in Scouting avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with youth members wherever possible.
8. Adults in Scouting, for their own protection, should avoid potentially compromising situations by ensuring, where reasonably possible, that at least two adults are in attendance whilst supervising and/or accompanying youth members.

It is recognised that in certain circumstances, it may be necessary for a leader or adult, whilst acting responsibly and exercising their Duty of Care, to be alone with a youth member.

9. Adults in Scouting are committed to providing a safe environment for youth members participating in the Scout Program, their parents or guardians and visitors.

That safe environment must be in accordance with Scouts Australia's policy of zero tolerance towards bullying, neglect, emotional, physical or sexual abuse of any kind.

Adults in Scouting recognise that abuse can take many forms and can be perpetrated through various mediums, including through technology, and will be alert to abuse in all of its manifestations.

10. Adults in Scouting must report any conduct seen or heard that does not comply with this Code of Conduct. Specifically, Adults in Scouting must report promptly any suspicion or allegation of child abuse of youth members in their care.

Where mandatory reporting is required, incident reports must be made to the police or designated State/Territory Authority in accordance with State or Territory Law and the nominated Scouting person should be advised. In all other cases the incident must be reported to the nominated Scouting person who shall report any suspicion or allegation of child abuse to the appropriate authority.