

Appendix 1

Youth Council – Code of Conduct

General Principles of Councillor Conduct

In accordance with the trust enshrined to me by the council, on all occasions:

- Act with integrity and honesty.
- Treat all persons fairly and with respect.
- Lead by example and act in a way that secures public and the councils confidence.

In undertaking my role:

- I do not improperly seek to confer an advantage or disadvantage any person.
- I avoid conflicts of interest.
- I exercise reasonable care and diligence.
- I remember my role is to represent the young people of SK; and use every opportunity to find out other young people's opinions and make these known to decision makers.

Standards of Councillor Conduct

This section sets out the obligations, which are the minimum standards of conduct required.

1. Respect

- Treat other councillors and members with respect.
- Respect means politeness and courtesy in behaviour, speech and the written word. Debate and having different views are all part of a healthy democracy. You can express, challenge, criticise and disagree with views, ideas, opinions and policies in a robust but civil manner. You should not subject individuals, groups of people or organisations to personal attack.

2. Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination

Bullying is characterised as offensive, intimidating, malicious or insulting behaviour, an abuse or misuse of power through means that undermine, humiliate, denigrate or injure the recipient. It can be a regular pattern of behaviour or a one off incident, happen face to face or at school or on social media. Unlawful discrimination is where someone is treated unfairly because of a protected characteristic which include: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

- I do not bully any person.
- I do not harass any person.
- I promote equalities and do not discriminate unlawfully against any person.

3. Meeting Conduct

- In order to ensure the effectiveness of meetings, I will endeavour to follow the agenda of the meeting and keep conversations to the relevant topics.
- I will ensure fellow Youth Councillors have the opportunity to contribute if they wish to do so.
- I recognise that it is important to listen to everyone's opinions and avoid talking over others, particularly in breakout groups. Champions are assigned to each group to help guide the conversation and ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak.
- I will try to minimise phone usage during meetings and discussions.
- When personal information is shared during discussion, I will maintain confidentiality outside of the meeting. If, however, I have concerns about anything I have heard, I should raise this with a trusted adult or member of the Youth Council team.

Signed By: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____