

# Behaviour guidelines for staff and volunteers

## DO NOT:

- use your position to gain access to information for your own advantage or another's detriment
- intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine anyone
- engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a student under 18 years who is attending your educational establishment
- play games or have physical contact that is inappropriate
- jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without checking facts
- investigate any allegations yourself
- make suggestive remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter
- create a personal relationship with a student where one does not already exist
- give **any** personal details about yourself or others to a student unless you have agreed this with a senior member of staff
- allow any student to access any of your personal accounts on social networking sites
- rely on your good name to protect you - it may not be enough
- believe that an allegation could not be made against you, it could

## DO:

- report all health & safety issues without delay
- keep students safe and protect them from physical and emotional harm
- look after yourself
- treat **everyone** with respect
- provide a positive example you wish others to follow
- work with another appropriate adult in all planned activities whenever possible
- risk assess all situations when you are working alone with a student and make sure you are seen and/or heard by others
- respect peoples' right to personal privacy
- create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- report and challenge all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, such as ridicule or bullying
- familiarise yourself with your school code of behaviour
- report any gifts you receive & ensure they are not of significant value or intention
- give gifts to students **only** as part of an agreed reward system
- follow procedures for reporting all allegations against staff, carers and volunteers See Appendix 5 of Local Safeguarding Children Board Child Protection Procedures [www.durham-lscb.org.uk](http://www.durham-lscb.org.uk)

**Remember: someone may misinterpret your actions, however well intentioned. Ask yourself are my actions fair, reasonable, warranted, proportionate, measured, safe and applied equally?**