



DEFENCE YOUTH SAFE CODE OF CONDUCT (YOUTH)

Youth statement of commitment

Defence is committed to keeping all youth safe and maintaining the wellbeing and best interests of youth who engage with the department.

This code of conduct aims to ensure everyone who participates in Defence youth programs understands what is expected of them and feels safe, respected, valued and treated fairly.

Defence expects people who take part in its activities to display appropriate behaviour at all times, including the online environment such as on social media or in emails.

Defence must ensure everyone taking part in its activities has seen, understood and agreed to follow the code of conduct, and that they understand the consequences of unacceptable behaviour.

Acceptable behaviours

For the duration of the program, I will:

- a. Treat everyone with respect.
- b. Participate in activities to the best of my ability and take full advantage of the opportunities provided to me.
- c. Dress appropriately keeping in mind health, hygiene and safety.
- d. Respect the property of individuals, Defence and other organisations and the privacy of other youth and adults.
- e. Use Defence ICT resources responsibly, in good faith and for a proper purpose.
- f. Listen respectfully to different viewpoints, interests and experiences.
- g. Follow reasonable and clear instructions provided by Defence youth program representatives and Australian Defence Force members
- h. Follow all policies, procedures and practices as explained to me.
- i. Complete all Defence youth protection training provided to me.
- j. Speak to a trusted adult, such as my parent/guardian, Defence supervisor, ADF Cadets supervisor or school teacher, if I am concerned for my safety or the safety of others.
- k. Take responsibility for my own behaviour.



Unacceptable behaviours

For the duration of the program, I will **NOT**:

- a. Participate in, or encourage behaviour that endangers the health, safety and wellbeing of myself, supervising staff, adult volunteers or my peers. This includes all forms of bullying, violence, discrimination, harassment and the use of inappropriate language (examples include swearing and sexual related comments).
- b. Use social media or online environments in a way which would bring myself, another Defence Youth Program participant, or supervisor or Defence into disrepute.
 - i. Use electronic devices (for example mobile phones) without permission while in a Defence environment.
 - ii. Smoke, use e-cigarettes (vaping), consume or be affected by alcohol or illicit drugs while participating in Defence activities.
 - iii. Have sexual contact, either physically or virtually (such as touching, hugging, kissing or inappropriately engaging via digital means) with my peers or the adults that I have met in a Defence environment.
 - iv. Take, send, post or request inappropriate, offensive or explicit photos, videos, text messages or other digital content.

Acknowledgement

- a. I have read this youth safe code of conduct and understand which behaviours are acceptable and unacceptable.
- b. I will use ICT resources appropriately and in accordance with this youth safe code of conduct (youth).
- c. I will follow the youth safe code of conduct (youth) at all times.

I understand Defence will take action if I breach the youth safe code of conduct. This includes notifying my parent or guardian, and/or the relevant authorities, of my behaviour. Breaching the youth safe code of conduct may result in me being removed from the Defence activity or base and may prevent me from being permitted to participate in further activities.

I agree to abide by this Code of Conduct during my time with Department of Defence.

I understand that breaches of this Code of Conduct may impact my participation on the program.

Full Name

Signature

Date