










## About: Codes of Conduct




A code of conduct outlines what is expected from the young person as a member of the youth theatre or during a specified project. It can also outline what they can expect from the youth theatre and inform parents of the terms and conditions of membership or participation in an event. It is a good idea for members to sign a copy of the agreed code so that it functions like a contract.

### Why use.... Codes of Conduct?

#### A code of conduct allows the youth theatre to:

-  Reduce the possibility of any situation of bullying/conflict/abuse arising;
-  Clearly define rules of behaviour among the young people;
-  Provide its members with a clear sense of their responsibility;
-  State what the young person can expect;
-  Discuss roles and responsibilities with young people;
-  Ask the young person for an agreement to a code of conduct;
-  Inform parents/guardians of the terms and conditions of membership or participation in an event.






#### The young person can:

-  Agree to or discuss their role or responsibilities;
-  See what is expected of them in terms of behaviour;
-  Have a clear idea of what they can expect from the youth theatre.

#### The Parent/Guardian can:

-  See what is expected of their child and others in relation to their child.

### Using and storing Codes of Conduct

-  Any youth theatre code of conduct for young people should be clearly displayed whenever the group meets.
-  Signed contracts can be used to support discussions regarding disciplinary actions and conflict.
-  The information given on a contract can be used as a template for discussion with the young people to design the group's own code of conduct.
-  It should be decided whether the code of conduct is up for discussion with each group or is comprised of non-negotiable statements.
-  It should be reflective of the youth theatre's wider welfare or child protection policy.