

The Vajraloka Buddhist Retreat Centre Child protection code of behaviour

As a Friend, Mitra or Order member and as an employee, volunteer, leader, teacher or parent involved with aged children under 18 visiting, or taking part in activities at, Vajraloka Buddhist Retreat Centre

I will

- treat all children and young people with respect and kindness.
- be an example of the good conduct I wish to see in young people and others.
- respect a young person's right to personal privacy.
- encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable and caring enough to point out attitudes or behaviour they do not like.
- remember that someone else might misinterpret my actions, no matter how well-intentioned
- be aware that physical contact with a child or young person may be misinterpreted.
- co-operate within the Vajraloka Buddhist Retreat Centre Child protection policy.
- give guidance and support to less experienced helpers, colleagues and volunteers.
- challenge unacceptable behaviour and **report all allegations/suspensions of abuse to the Vajraloka Buddhist Retreat Centre's Safeguarding officer, Prajnapriya/Peter Cohen.**
- ensure that, whenever possible, there is more than one adult present during activities with children or at least that we are within sight or hearing of others. This is for my own protection as well as for the protection of children and young people in our care.**

I will not

- allow someone who is likely to pose a risk to children to have contact with children (i.e a known sex offender or someone who has disclosed sexual interest in children).
- have inappropriate physical or verbal contact with children or young people.
- allow myself to be drawn into inappropriate, attention-seeking behaviour.
- make suggestive or derogatory remarks or gestures in front of children or young people.
- jump to conclusions without checking facts.
- exaggerate or trivialise child-abuse issues.
- show favouritism to any child.
- rely on my good name or that of the Vajraloka Buddhist Retreat Centre to protect me.
- believe "things like this could never happen here."

I have read the guidance above, and the accompanying Vajraloka Buddhist Retreat Centre Child protection policy, and agree to abide by them.

This document is to be read in conjunction with the Vajraloka Buddhist Retreat Centre Child protection policy.

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