

## **The Triratna Buddhist Community (Colchester)**

### **Child protection code of conduct 2018**

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 the Colchester Buddhist Centre.

#### **In the course of activities run by the Triratna Buddhist Community (Colchester)**

##### **I will do my best to**

- 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 Triratna Buddhist Community (Colchester) 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 Triratna Buddhist Community (Colchester)'s Safeguarding officer, Gunasara Evans.
- **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 do my best not to**

- allow someone who is likely to pose a risk to children to have contact with children (ie 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 left alone in a room with a person under 18
- ask a person under 16 for their phone number, or attempt to contact them via email, messaging services or social media without the permission of their parent or guardian.
- 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 Triratna Buddhist Community (Colchester) to protect me.
- believe "Things like that could never happen here" or "They would never do a thing like that."

I have read the guidance above, and the accompanying Triratna Buddhist Community (Colchester) Child protection policy, and agree to abide by them.

**Name**

**Signature**

**Date**

*This document is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying Triratna Buddhist Community (Colchester) Child protection code of conduct and the guidance document 'Care for teenagers in Triratna'.*

*This model document published 2018 by the Triratna Safeguarding Team.  
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