FV-09b | Child Safe Code of Conduct

Approved November 2026 | Version 1

This code applies to everyone representing Fishcare in activities or communications involving children, including travel and contact outside scheduled sessions arising from the role. Provide age-appropriate guidance and supervision for any representative under 18.

I will

- Put children's safety, wellbeing and rights first. Respect culture, identity, ability and choices; challenge racism and discrimination.
- Explain activities, boundaries and how to get help in ways children understand. Respect refusal of touch, photographs or participation and find a safe alternative.
- Work in visible spaces within approved supervision and role limits. Ensure participants under 18 remain accompanied by responsible adults, including at FishAbility.
- Respect the autonomy of adult FishAbility participants; agree support without assuming incapacity.
- Use approved organisational communication channels and image permissions. Keep personal and safeguarding information secure.
- Listen to concerns, record facts and report promptly. Report accidental private contact and boundary breaches as well as suspected abuse. Meet external legal duties without waiting for internal permission.

I will not

- Abuse, groom, threaten, shame, exploit, discriminate against or sexually engage with a child; use sexual jokes, corporal punishment or coercion.
- Develop secret or preferential relationships, offer personal gifts or favours, arrange private meetings or contact children through personal accounts or disappearing messages.
- Be alone with a child in a concealed space; provide unapproved private transport or invite a child home because of the Fishcare relationship.
- Provide unplanned intimate care, unnecessary touch or restraint. In an emergency use only the least intrusive necessary action, seek help and record it.
- Photograph without required consent and assent, publish identifying information or risky live locations, or store child images on personal devices without approval.
- Promise secrecy, investigate an allegation myself, retaliate or discourage a complaint.

Breaches and acknowledgement

Make the child safe, call 000 for immediate danger and follow FV-09a Child Safe Complaints and Reporting. Breaches are assessed fairly and may lead to changed duties, suspension, ending engagement and external reporting. The accompanying adult rule and a WWC clearance do not excuse unsafe behaviour.

I have read and understand this code, know the reporting routes and agree to follow it.

Name _____ Role and region _____
Signature _____ Date _____