# **Ardoch's Volunteer Agreement**



### Responsibilities of School Based/Early Years Centres Volunteers

- To support students' learning, wellbeing and participation in accordance with the aims/goals as identified by the teacher.
- To develop a positive relationship with students and staff.
- To make regular contact with, provide feedback, and voice any issues/concerns to the teacher and/or Ardoch staff.
- To fulfil duties in a conscientious manner, that is: to be punctual, reliable, flexible, open and friendly, attend consistently as negotiated, notify relevant contact person if unable to attend.
- To respect confidentiality, unless there are concerns regarding a student's wellbeing, in which case, inform the relevant staff and/or Ardoch project coordinator.
- To work cooperatively as a team member.
- To respond to Ardoch organisational emails and phone calls within one week.
- To work in a supervised or public area and notify the teacher if there is a need to leave an area unattended.
- To attend ongoing training and volunteer support meetings.
- To participate in regular reviews with teachers and Ardoch staff.
- To read and be familiar with the school's rules and policies.
- To be receptive to teachers' support, guidance and direction.
- To inform the teacher if unable to attend or taking leave.
- To observe all administrative requirements, e.g. log your hours online, wear a name badge.

### Rights of School Based/Early Years Centres Volunteers

- To work in a healthy and safe environment.
- To be kept informed on a regular basis of relevant issues.
- To have a job description and clarity regarding volunteer roles and working hours.
- To ask questions and request guidance and support.
- To be provided with training and orientation.
- To have the necessary support and direction to carry out designated duties.
- To have clear lines of accountability and responsibility to Ardoch and the relevant early childhood centre/school site.
- To have access to support, supervision and de-briefing from the teacher and Ardoch staff.
- To have access to conflict resolution procedures (see volunteers' policy booklet).
- To be respected and treated as co-workers.
- To receive appropriate recognition and acknowledgement for one's contribution.

# Code of Conduct for Staff and Volunteers

Ardoch's Code of Conduct details behaviours that are and are not acceptable within the organisation.



## Do:

- Dress and conduct yourself in a manner consistent with your position as a positive role model to children/young people, and as a representative of Ardoch and the school/early childhood community;
- Follow organisational policy and guidelines relating to the safety and security of children/young people as outlined in the Child Safety Policy and as it pertains to a particular site;
- Treat all children and young people with respect and take notice of their reactions to your tone of voice and manner to ensure a positive experience for them;
- Always maintain contact with children/young people in a supervised area and within the parameters of the program;
- Report any disclosure or suspicion/concern about a child/young person's wellbeing and safety to school and Ardoch staff; and
- Make sure all allegations or suspicions of abuse are reported, recorded and acted upon in a confidential manner.

### Do Not:

- Engage in rough physical games;
- Hold, kiss, cuddle or touch a child/young person in an inappropriate and/or culturally insensitive way;
- Act in a sexually provocative manner or engage children or young people in any form of sexual activity;
- Make sexually suggestive comments or use inappropriate language to a child/young person, even as a
  joke;
- Do things of a personal nature that a child/young person can do for themselves, such as going to the toilet or changing clothes;
- Accompany children to the toilet;
- Disclose any personal information of a controversial nature;
- Exchange personal contact details with, initiate or maintain unauthorised contact with children/young people;
- Take photos, store images, or share details on social media without the explicit written permission obtained through Ardoch; and
- Engage in social interactions with children or young people through social networking sites unless there
  is educationally valid context and with prior approval of Ardoch and Partner Site staff.
- Attend any Ardoch obligation under the effects of illicit drugs or alcohol.

#### Personal attributes of Ardoch Volunteers:

- Respect for boundaries
- Committed
- Show Initiative
- Passionate about children and education
- Able to build a positive relationship with a teacher
- Stable, professional, patient role model
- Focused not easily distracted
- Non-judgemental
- Constant champion of the children, school and Ardoch
- Communicate with stakeholders in a respectful manner

I understand and agree to commit to Ardoch's Rights and Responsibilities for volunteers and the Code of Conduct while working as an Ardoch volunteer. This document is not intended to be a legally binding contract between us and may be cancelled at any given time at the discretion of either party. The Volunteer role at Ardoch is a voluntary position. This means that you perform all duties voluntarily, of your own free will, and without payment for your time and work.

Name	Date	Signature