



Volunteer Code of Conduct

This is written in the knowledge that it is very unlikely that the behaviour of any volunteer would be less than exemplary. However, it is acknowledged that even those with the excellent motives which lead to their volunteering to help those less fortunate than themselves, may suffer an occasional lapse or inadvertently transgress cultural values previously unknown to them.

It is essential that we support our children in every way so that they do not fall into promiscuity and undesirable and damaging habits regarding alcohol, tobacco and drugs. Promiscuity and drug misuse are particularly dangerous due to the high incidence of HIV/AIDS in Cambodia and the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse. We are trying to protect our children from such dangers.

Therefore, we have written this code of conduct to support our volunteers so that they do not inadvertently cause offence or perpetrate behaviour which may set a bad example to our children and thus endanger them.

- ❖ Volunteers must not smoke either at the Cambodian Children's House of Peace - Santepheap. If volunteers have cigarettes on their person, it would be appreciated if they would keep them from the sight of all the children and only smoke when out of sight.
- ❖ Volunteers must not bring or consume alcoholic drinks and/or illegal drugs of any sort to CCHP. Illegal drugs are considered to be those taken for 'recreational' purposes as opposed to those taken to remediate illness.
- ❖ Volunteers must not engage in any sexual activity, including kissing and cuddling or lying on the ground together at CCHP.
- ❖ Volunteers must not bring any unsuitable literature or pictures to the Cambodian Children's House of Peace. The terminology 'Unsuitable' includes literature containing material of a sexual, violent or drug related nature.
- ❖ If volunteers have a disagreement with each other or any other person on the CCHP premises they must conduct the discussion in a civilised and quiet manner and seek to reach an agreement or acceptable compromise as soon as possible.
- ❖ Please wear neat and modest attire when working at CCHP - not shorts and skimpy T shirts which are considered immodest. Santepheap T shirts are available for purchase (\$10 each) at CCHP.

We also ask that volunteers set only good examples of behaviour for our children and are careful about the terminology they use when addressing them. For example: In western cultures calling a child 'a monkey' can be an affectionate term for a mischievous child, but here it causes offence and can appear racist. So we request that you are careful about the language you use. Also, poking your tongue out in jest and teaching children to do so..... Please consider all that you are doing and if it is the best example for our children. We want our children to grow up with the best manners and behaviour.

Thank you for your understanding and your cooperation in supporting us to provide the best care and example for our children to help ensure that they have a happy future.