



Group Rules for Junior and Youth Church

We believe

Social media and other online forums and resources can enrich our children's learning and development, and build a community around sharing the Church's mission and values. We have put in place a number of rules to make sure every child has a joyful and safe experience within our social media groups.

The purpose of these rules

The Peterborough Cathedral Junior and Youth Church works with children and families as part of its activities. The purpose of these rules are to:

- ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people using the Junior Church Facebook Page or mobile devices
- ensure that, as an organisation, we operate in line with our values and within the law in terms of how we use Facebook. These rules apply to all staff, volunteers, parents/guardians, children and young people and anyone involved in The Peterborough Cathedral Junior Church's Facebook Page and Youth Church Whatsapp group

Our aim must be to protect our children against identification on social media.

We should only refer to each other by our first names in 'on-line chat'.

If any public comments appear on our group site, members and their families should not respond as they may risk identification. Any concerns about identification must be reported immediately to the administrator

Social Media rules

- **Respect Privacy** This group is a closed group where only Junior and Youth Church members and their parents/guardians are allowed. Being part of this group requires a mutual trust where any content, including; photos and videos must remain private and must not be shared outside of the group. At times the Cathedral may want to use content in a more public forum such as on their website and other public social media outlets. This will only happen if permission has been granted by the parent/guardian of the children involved.*
- **Be Kind and Courteous** We must all as Junior Church create a welcoming and safe Christian environment for our children to express themselves. All members of this group should be treated with kindness and respect. Bullying and harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.
- **Parental Supervision** Many of the children in Junior and Youth Church will not meet the age requirements for joining social media platforms. Legislation states that children aged 13 and under should not have their own social media accounts. Please make sure children are supervised at all times, especially if they are posting or uploading any content on the group.

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Author: Head of Learning and Engagement

Approved by: Cathedral Executive Team

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- **Stay on Topic** We welcome our members thoughts, questions and discussions, but please keep them relevant to the group's core Christian values and mission. No advertising please.
- **Report Rule-Breaking** If you see a comment or post that isn't in the spirit of our Christian values, please report it to the Cathedral Safeguarding Officer and Group Administrator, Canon Sarah Brown. Canon.missioner@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk

We are here to help and to keep the group a safe space for everyone.

What CAN we do?

- **Have fun!** We want to see what you have been up to. Post pictures or videos of your latest craft creation, or a video of you singing perhaps?!
- **Get involved** We are always looking for group members to do readings, help with craft ideas...anything that makes learning fun!
- **Keep in Touch** Not being able to see each other has been tough, so let's use this group to catch up with friends and help each other get through these difficult times.

E-Safety Advice for Parents and Young People

Childnet have released six new easy-to-follow videos for parents and children to work through together. The 10-15 minute videos offer simple, clear online safety advice using fun activities, games and discussion. There are optional follow-up activities to extend children's learning. The videos can be found here:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/video-lessons>

From setting up parental controls, to advice on sexting, online games and video apps, the **NSPCC** can help you to understand the risks and keep your child safe:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

The Government recognises that many parents may feel concerned about the activities and content their children have accessed during the COVID-19 lockdown. Their guidance outlines resources to help keep children safe from different risks online and where to go to receive support and advice.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

*When you become a member of the group, you will be sent a Social Media Consent Form where you can opt in or out.

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