**Young Sports Leader: Code of Conduct**

Thank you for volunteering as a leader at a GSSP event! Your role is incredibly important. This Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for your behaviour and responsibilities to ensure a safe, positive, and fun experience for everyone, especially the younger children participating.

**1. High Quality Leadership**

* **Be a Role Model:** Demonstrate positive leadership qualities throughout the event. This includes Positivity, Encouragement, Engagement, Confidence & Motivation
* **Lead Effectively:** Use these qualities to confidently lead your assigned game, activity, or area.
* **Seek Clarification:** If you are unsure about anything (rules, instructions, etc.), ask a member of **GSSP** staff immediately. Don't guess!
* **Be Inclusive:** Treat all participants with equal respect and consideration, regardless of their gender, age, ability, background, or any other factor.

**2. Respect and Responsibility:**

* **Be Polite and Courteous:** Show respect to all participants, staff (teachers, GSSP staff, college tutors), and other leaders at all times.
* **Report Concerns Immediately:** If you see or hear *anything* that makes you feel uncomfortable, worried, or that you think might be a risk to a child's safety or well-being, report it *immediately* to a member of GSSP staff or your college tutor.
* **Be Considerate:** Be mindful of the diverse needs of participants, including very young children and those with special educational needs or disabilities. Adapt your approach as needed. Seek support if you are unsure.
* **Equipment and Venue Safety:**
  + Use all equipment and the venue responsibly and safely.
  + **Do not use any of the event equipment.** This is a safety precaution.
  + Regularly inspect your designated area and equipment to ensure they are safe. Report any concerns.

**3. Safeguarding and Child Protection:**

* **Never be alone with a child.** Avoid situations where you are one-on-one with a participant. Participants should always be supervised by a member of their school staff.
* **No Physical Contact:** Avoid physical contact with participants.
* **No Mobile Phones or Electronic Devices:**
  + **Mobile phones, smartwatches, and other personal electronic devices (including headphones/earphones) are strictly prohibited during the event.** This includes during briefings, participant arrival, the event itself, and departures. This is to protect children and ensure your full attention is on them.
  + **If you have an urgent need to use your phone, inform a member of GSSP/college tutor and use it outside of the event venue, out of sight of participants.**
  + **Absolutely no photography or video recording of participants is permitted.**
* **Report any concerns:** If you have *any* concerns for a child's welfare, or have witnessed/been told of something concerning, tell a member of GSSP staff or your college tutor immediately.

**4. General Professionalism:**

* **Maintain a Professional Manner:** Act professionally from the moment you arrive until you leave the event.
* **Appropriate Language:**
  + Use language that is suitable for the age of the children.
  + Use positive and encouraging language.
  + **Strictly no swearing, slang, or offensive language.**
* **Timekeeping:**
  + Arrive promptly at the specified time and register with your Gateshead College tutor / GSSP staff.
  + Be clear about the timings of any breaks and return promptly.
  + If you need to leave early or have any time constraints, inform *both* your Gateshead College tutor *and* GSSP staff *before* the event begins.
* **Dress Code:** Wear appropriate clothing and footwear suitable for sports activities. Avoid clothing with offensive slogans or images.

**5. Agreement:**

* By volunteering as a leader, you agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.
* Failure to follow this Code may result in you being asked to leave the event and could affect your participation in future events.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name (Print): |  |
| Signature: |  |
| Date: |  |

**Key Contacts:**

* **GSSP Staff:** [Insert names/contact details]
* **Gateshead College Tutor:** [Insert names/contact details]