

YOUTH SAFE HOUSE

LEADERS EXPECTATIONS

1. **Maintain a healthy growing time with Jesus**- Youth leaders must be steadily growing in their relationship with Jesus if they ever want the students to grow.
2. **Be faithful to church/youth group**- Tell your leaders that you expect them to be at church when the doors are open so that is applicable to however your church does its service times.
3. **Attend youth events**- It's your responsibility to attend every youth event. It's one of the best ways to build relationships with the youth members. In a case where you can't attend any youth event you must give the youth pastor a prior notice so that alternative arrange can be made
4. **Build relationships with their small group students' parents**- You must try your best to talk with the parents and build a solid relationship with the parents throughout the year.
5. **Participate with enthusiasm**- it is the Youth leaders responsibility to kick up the enthusiasm and energy at meetings
6. **Follow Rules & boundaries of church**- Youth leaders must know that they are responsible for teaching the students to follow rules whether or not they agree with them.
7. **Offer suggestions for improvement**- Youth Leaders are expected to give feedback and suggestions for improvement to the youth pastor.
8. **Attend training and leader's meetings**- It's the youth leader's responsibility to attend training and meetings. You must plan around important meetings.
9. **Follow through on responsibilities**- If you are given a responsibility you follow through and you must get it done in a timely manner as well.
10. **Pray daily for the youth ministry**- As a Youth leader you should be responsible and held accountable that you are praying daily for the ministry!
11. **Positive Attitude**: The ability to work with and see people and situations in a constructive way.
12. **Servant-hood**: The willingness to sacrifice time and energy for others without needing anyone to notice.
13. **Team Player**: The mind-set of looking out for others and being intentional to lift others up.
14. **Growing Edge**: Have a hunger for personal and spiritual growth. We cannot lead where we have not been.
15. **Follow-Through**: A commitment to be responsible and to fulfill any specific ministries or jobs that have been agreed upon.
16. **Timeliness**: The world runs on schedules, so timeliness and punctuality are important. Put others before yourself and do what is necessary to be on time (30 minutes early).

17. **Integrity**: Trustworthiness and solid character; consistency in words and walk are key.
18. **Discipline**: The willingness to do what is required regardless of your mood; youth meetings and events are for students so please stay student-minded.
19. **Relational**: The ability to make others feel comfortable and cared for. Every student counts and needs to be known, greeted, and connected.
20. **Sense of Humour**: Ability to laugh at yourself, try new things and have a good time learning from your mistakes!!
21. **Be Patient**: Be patient with yourself. Don't stress if you're learning curve is high. Just be willing to learn. Also be patient with others. Remember everyone is at a different place in their life. Reach out and love people where they're at! Feeling comfortable and connecting with students takes time – going to camps, retreats and special events will help intensify and solidify your relationships with students. The more you invest, the more you will get out of it, so take initiative.
22. **Teachable Spirit**: The ability to be humble, open to loving criticism and able to learn from others. Sometimes truthful criticism comes from a sinful attitude. Be mature enough to separate the means from the message and ask the Lord to help you see what is true.

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YOUTH LEADER BOUNDARIES

We want to do everything we can to honour Jesus in our ministry, and that means willingly taking precautions and gladly sacrificing some freedoms for the sake of the ministry.

Use careful judgment at all times in the exercise of personal freedom, particularly when associated with and/or relating to students, either publicly or privately. We recognize that many of us have opinions and practices on certain lifestyle issues that differ from one another, such as how we conduct ourselves and the words we use. Furthermore, the Bible, our authority for all Christian life, is not explicit on every issue within our culture.

Nevertheless, many Christians have historically condemned the use of certain words and body language. If ever you're unsure, don't do or say what you're unsure of.

Lifestyle issues are complicated further by the reality that we are in a position of trust and influence in the youth ministry. Therefore, with respect to such issues as the use of language, entertainment, drinking and other behavioural matters that are open to abuse, misuse and misunderstanding, the following biblical principles must be followed:

- The Bible condemns self-indulgence while commanding self-control (Gal. 5:19-25).
- The Bible commands respect of one's body (1 Thes. 4:4; 1 Cor. 6:18-20).
- Community interests are to be put ahead of self-interest (Phil. 2:3-5).

Personal liberty is to be set aside:

- When its exercise could hinder a student's spiritual development;
- When its exercise could be misunderstood in such a way as to hinder one's own witness, or that of our student ministry;
- When culture abuse suggests the need for Christian leaders to exercise self-restraint;
- When an action could endanger another person's safety or well-being.

Please Note: This is not intended to be a legalistic definition of right and wrong. It is meant to provide principles to limit the experience of Christian liberty because of the position of influence in which we find ourselves.

- Be purposeful in who you talk to and hangout with at youth. ALWAYS, ALWAYS watch for the new person or someone who looks like they are feeling left out.

- No driving girls alone in your car if you are a guy; no driving guys alone in your car if you're a girl – EVER! It is not acceptable and there is no exception. Sometimes there are sticky situations that may seem unavoidable, but they are avoidable (inconvenient, maybe, but avoidable). Call someone, get help, make two trips, be honest, do whatever it takes to avoid the situation. This sets parents' minds at ease, covers the ministry's reputation and watches out for you as well as students! Along these same lines, be careful about even being alone in a room at church for too long with a student of the opposite gender...always be in view of others.

- No dating youth members. Staff/student romantic relationships are an ABSOLUTE NO! It may be flattering to you, but have nothing to do with it. Talk to Pastor Matt immediately if you sense something developing.

- Girl leaders will work closely with and minister to girls and guy leaders will work closely with and minister to guys. Mingling is cool, but a defined standard of boundaries is an excellent example for students, as well as making a disciplined attempt at maintaining focus while removing distraction.

- Dating: It is no problem if you are dating a fellow youth leader, but please keep your focus on the students while at youth group. Please set the example for students where Public Displays of Affection (PDA) are concerned. If you're married, then appropriate PDA with your spouse is great! We want students to see married couples in love, but keep it clean, keep it Christ-centered and set a godly example for our students.

- Language boundaries: no swearing permitted...ever. In no way can foul language be accepted. This includes coarse joking, rude remarks, gossip, inappropriate sarcasm and negativity. We also need to set an excellent example where stereotyping and prejudices are concerned, so please refrain from anything that is not uplifting and encouraging. Please and Thank You

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COMMITMENT FORM

After spending time in prayer, observing the youth ministry and leadership, discussing with my family and close friends the commitment involved with being an adult leader in the youth ministry, I choose to commit the following:

- I acknowledge that Jesus is my Saviour and that I have a growing relationship with Him.
- I am committed to growing and maturing my relationship with Jesus through regular time in the Word of God, prayer, active fellowship with the Rhema Miracle centre, giving of my resources to the Lord for kingdom work and involvement in my own accountability relationships.
- [If married] My spouse is fully in support of my commitment, realizing that in many ways it is their commitment as well.
- I am committed to biblically-informed choices and a lifestyle that is both godly and above reproach, because I am aware that my lifestyle is a model for the members that I serve
- I am making a commitment to Youth Safe House for a period of one year (specify if other commitment was agreed upon). Time commitment if other: _____
- I will attend youth meetings and will make a commitment to make leadership team meetings a priority.
- I will work hard to help Rhema Miracle Centre fulfil the vision and ministry goals of Youth Safe House.
- I am committed to supporting parents as a part of youth ministry.
- I am committing to go directly and quickly to Minister Andrew Vidogah when I have concerns, frustrations, or differences. And I commit that I will not gossip about youth leaders, parents or students.
- I commit to giving Minister Andrew Vidogah two-months" notice when preparing to step out of the youth ministry so that adequate time is available to find my replacement. Sometimes this is not foreseeable, but in most cases it is.
- I am committed to praying for the members, leaders and parents of Youth Safe House.

Name

Signature

Date

YOUTH SAFE HOUSE APPLICATION FORM

GENERAL INFORMATION (Please Print)

Name: _____ Cell No.: _____

E-mail: _____ Home No.: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

INTERESTS AND LIFE QUESTIONS

How do you like to spend your free time? What do you do for fun?

How do you make decisions about which movies to see or which music to listen to?

How is God at work in your life now? (Please be specific)

What struggles do you have as a Christian? (We all have them)

Would you feel comfortable recommending all of your music to a student? Why or why not?

What is your desire for working with students?

How well do you feel you know the Bible?

___ Bible? What's that?

___ I know where my Bible is.

___ I can name some of the books of the Bible.

___ I read it rarely.

___ I read it weekly.

___ I read it more than four days per week.

___ I feel comfortable teaching lessons others put together.

___ I am excited to put Bible studies together to teach.

Do you have a spiritual accountability partner? ___ Yes ___ No

Are you open to spiritual accountability? ___ Yes ___ No

Are you open to church membership? ___ Yes ___ No

I am aware that I must also complete the RMC background check and CRB

Signature

Date