# *St Johns Anglican Church- KAOS ministry*

# **“Above Reproach”**

### Setting a Biblical Example in the Leadership of Youth and Children

1 Timothy 3:1-10

We are so glad that you have decided to be involved in KAOS. We want our ministry to be characterised by grace and forgiveness, rather than rules and regulations, but leaders should have a particularly high standard in their personal life.

Leaders will want to be above reproach in their whole lives, with lives full of integrity and faithfulness, above and beyond what the law demands. We take the leadership of children and young people very seriously.

This document is intended to be an introduction to leadership expectations in our church and practical ways that you can be a leader who is above reproach.

KAOS- Code of Conduct

**1.. Being above reproach in WHAT WE SAY:** (Eph 5:1-4) (FiS 6.12, 6.21)

1. Set an example in our language to ensure it doesn't degrade God or anything good He has created
2. Be genuine encouragers, speaking positive words to each other and to those whom we serve
3. Avoid cynicism in our hearts and refrain from being argumentative, divisive or inappropriately finding fault with individuals

**2.. Being above reproach in OUR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS**:

(1 Thess 4:1-8) (FiS 6.18, 7.4, 7.7)

1. Our relationships must be 'above reproach'. We ought not to place ourselves in situations where our integrity in our relationships with others may be - or even thought to be - compromised.
2. Family relationships must be maintained in a respectful and loving way. Leaders must always be aware that they are being observed as role models and are seen as an example to follow.

**3. Being above reproach CONCERNING ALCOHOL AND DRUGS:** (Gal 5:19-21) (FiS 6.7, 6.8, 6.20)

1. Drunkenness is regularly deemed to be totally unacceptable throughout the Bible [Ephesians 5:18]. All leaders must ensure that this does not happen – publicly or privately. Use of illegal drugs and misuse of legal drugs are equally unacceptable.
2. In the lead up to, and during ministry activities, all leaders should ensure that they are fit to work and are unimpaired by drugs and/or alcohol.

**4. Being above reproach in OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEAM MEMBERS:**

(Heb 13:17)

1. We will model respect for the leadership of all those who have pastoral oversight over us.
2. We recognise that there are appropriate ways in which to raise a difference of opinion we may have with the children’s pastor. Where this arises
	1. we will be respectful in our discussion with the children’s pastor regarding this difference
	2. we will not gossip nor air this publicly
	3. we will accept the children’s pastor decision but if the matter is of great concern we will take it to senior minister to help mediate

5.. Being above reproach in DEALING WITH MISTAKES:

1. Any incident should be reported to the Children’s pastor, who will decide if further action is required. If in doubt about whether something qualifies as an incident, then err on the side of caution and inform the Children’s pastor.
2. If there is a lapse in any of the above leadership expectations, the leader concerned should be directed to the code of conduct with the aim of rectifying the problem. If the problem cannot be resolved, the leader concerned will be asked to accept the direction of the Children’s pastor.
3. A leader will be asked to step down if there is a gross breach of these expectations which would undermine the confidence of the parents, the leaders and the children or youth in the person’s ability to be a Christian role model. In this situation, the decision will be made in consultation with the Senior Minister. The person is still supported as a brother or sister in Christ, but cannot be supported as a leader.

STATEMENT OF BELIEF

God: There is one God in whom there are three and equal persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is the creator of everything, infinite, eternal, faithful, all powerful and good.

(Matthew 28:19 | 1 Peter 1:1-2)

The Bible: The Bible is the word of God written by holy people inspired by the Spirit. The Bible is our supreme authority in all matters of faith and godly living.

(2 Timothy 3:16 |2 Peter 1:21)

**Humankind:** God created humankind in the image of God and we are unique in all of creation called to live in relationship with our creator, with humanity and as rulers over the rest of creation.

(Genesis 1:28 | Psalm 8)

**Sin.** Every human is by nature sinful, and all of creation suffers the consequences of living in a fundamentally fallen world. In our nature sinful nature we are all guilty before God and deserving God's wrath and condemnation.

(Romans 3.23| Ephesians 2:3)

**Jesus:** Jesus is the Christ, born fully human and fully God, uncorrupted by sin and shared in the struggles and suffering of humanity. Jesus willingly died once for all humankind as our representative and substitute and his sacrifice alone redeems us from the guilt, penalty and power of sin.

(John 1:14 | Hebrews 1:1-4 | 1 Peter 3:18, Hebrews 9:25-27)

**The bodily resurrection:** Jesus was crucified and died, rose in bodily form, is the first fruits of those who have died and ascended to the right hand of the Father where he now rules as king.

(John 20:26-28 |1 Corinthians 15:17-21)

**Salvation by grace:** Salvation is the free gift of God made possible by the Holy Spirit who compels us to repent and believe the good news about Jesus and our need for salvation. Salvation cannot be earned or made more secure by works but God saves the sinner by grace through faith in Christ alone.

(Ephesians 2:10, 2 Peter 1:10-11)

**Christian living:** The Holy Spirit lives in and restores the Christian. The Spirit convicts the Christian of sin, guides the Christian in truth and transforms the mind and conduct of the Christian so they are more like Christ. Christians sin even with the Holy Spirit and this struggle will continue until we are raised perfect with Christ.

(Romans 12:1-2 | 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8).

**The Church:** As Christians we are all gathered by Christ and are part of the body of Christ. Christians express their relationship together by gathering regularly to worship God in a committed community.

(Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 4:11-13 |Hebrews 10:25)

**The End:** Jesus will come again to judge the living and the dead and establish his new heaven and new earth.

(2 Timothy 4:7-9 | Revelation 21:1-4)

MINISTRY Commitment

Personal Commitment

* I have read, and will work within, the expectations as laid out in this ministry Code of Conduct.

Time Commitment

I willingly accept the significant time commitment I am making

* Lead each week during term (including time before and after to prepare, pray and pack up)

Ministry Commitment

I will…

* accept the leadership of those responsible for the ministry and acknowledge their authority under God
* be on time and well prepared for the ministry and ministry events
* respond in a timely manner to communication from my leaders
* Pray regularly for those I lead
* Give particular attention to those I lead during the program time
* Appropriately follow up those I lead if they have be absent.
* Connect with parents where possible during the normal life of our Church community

Safe Ministry Commitment

* I have completed Safe Ministry training in the last 3 years
* I have completed a Working with Children Check
* I understand that if an allegation is made against me about child abuse or neglect, the matter may be referred to the police or other relevant authority for investigation.

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| Name: |  | Signature: |  | Date: |  |