

Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos Volunteer Guidelines

God sees in all of us special gifts that we can share with others. We are very grateful for your call into ministry with children. God has given us a great responsibility to nurture and protect children and youth. We are all ministers of the church and are here to provide a safe, positive, and supportive environment for children, youth and the persons who work with them. When you are working with children or youth as part of PCLG programs you are agreeing to the following:

- *To treat all children and youth with respect and consideration.
- *To give children your full attention both in the classroom and on the playground.
- *To treat all children and youth equally regardless of sex, race, religion, culture, or sexual orientation.
- *To maintain an attitude of respect, loyalty, patience, courtesy, tact, and maturity, to be a positive role model for children and youth.
- *To use positive techniques of guidance such as redirection, positive reinforcement, and encouragement.
- *To refrain from any behavior that could be considered abusive to children or youth, including physical abuse, verbal abuse, sexual abuse, mental abuse, and neglect.
- *To report to your work area at least 15 minutes prior to your start time and be fully prepared for your task.
- *To attend teacher/volunteer training sessions when provided by the Children's Ministry committee.
- *To leave restroom doors open and give assistance only if requested by the child. Assistance should be given by a female.
- *To follow security procedure when assigning and reclaiming Red Heart Tags.
- *To remain in view of others when with a child or youth and to have TWO adults present or youth leader (youth leader should be 18 years of age) at all times.
- *To find a replacement when absent and notify your team schedule coordinator and or the Director of Children's Ministry.

Abiding by these promises is important and necessary for participation with children and youth as part of Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos programs.

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