**Code of Practice, Connecting-Roots will:**

• Treat all children and young people with respect

• Provide an example of good conduct you wish others to follow

• Respect a young person’s right to personal privacy / encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable and caring enough to point out attitudes or behaviour they do not like

• Remember that someone else might misinterpret your actions, no matter how well intentioned

• Be aware that even physical contact with a child or young person may be misinterpreted

• Recognise that special caution is required when you are discussing sensitive issues with children or young people

• Operate within the Church’s (organisation’s) principles and guidance and any particular procedure of the diocese, parish, order or club

• Challenge unacceptable behaviour and report all allegations/suspicions of abuse

***You must not***

• Have inappropriate physical or verbal contact with children or young people

• Allow yourself to be drawn into inappropriate attention seeking behaviour/make suggestive or derogatory remarks or gestures in front of children and young people

• Jump to conclusions about others without checking facts

• Either exaggerate or trivialise child abuse issues

• Show favouritism to any individual

• Rely on your good name or that of the Church’s (organisation or charity) to protect you

• Believe ‘it could never happen to me’

• Take a chance when common sense, policy or practice suggests another more prudent approach you should give guidance and support to inexperienced helpers.