



## LEADER / TEACHER CODE OF CONDUCT

Riverwood Church Community is an open, faith-community where people from all walks of life, economics, nationalities and personal histories can come to explore the Christian faith, be accepted where they are at and get connected to a faith community. At Riverwood, those who function **in a role of leading, influence or teaching** are expected to function by a higher code of ethics, striving to uphold the New Testament standards in all aspects of their life and ministry. Those who choose to lead, teach and serve as a Riverwood Volunteer affirm their commitment to honour this Code of Conduct.

Riverwood leaders and teachers agree to the Riverwood Statement of Faith and will refrain from advocating doctrines not in alignment with Riverwood doctrinal position or contrary to the Statement of Faith.

Riverwood leaders and teachers will be committed “champions” of Riverwood’s mission, vision, values and purposes, and will encourage others to assist in the implementation of these foundational beliefs.

Riverwood leaders and teachers are loyal to the leaders God has put in place at Riverwood. Concerns or personal conflicts will be dealt with on a personal level with the person(s) involved, following the Matthew 18 principle.

Riverwood leaders and teachers are to avoid conduct that is unethical or immoral and to avoid behavior that is contrary to Biblical principles, including:

- abuse of substances (illicit drugs / alcohol)
- theft or fraud
- physical aggression
- abusive behavior
- sexual assault or abuse
- disrespect of leaders and volunteer supervisors who are responsible for managing volunteers & programs
- harassment
- lying, deceit or dishonesty
- criminal activity
- sexual relationships outside of marriage (pre-marital or extra-marital): Riverwood interprets the Bible as stating that God’s design for sexual relationships is exclusively between a man and woman in the covenant of marriage. Those who lead and teach at Riverwood need to be able to teach and model this discipline with their lives.
- reading or viewing pornographic materials
- provocative dress that creates distraction, attention on themselves or is contrary Riverwood’s values
- any behavior that puts the church or the people in our community at risk

Riverwood leaders and teachers recognize that a good attitude is invaluable to church morale and momentum. Those with negative or damaging attitudes will be coached and encouraged towards a healthier attitude, however, they may also be asked to stop serving if the attitude continues.

It is through living in authentic community that Riverwood leaders and teachers join in the mission of building the church.