

# CODE OF CONDUCT

## Purpose:

The Different Journeys Autism Peer Support Events have been created to empower the autistic individuals and their families/carers by providing a social platform and community. The platform encourages a safe and supportive environment in which they can build relationships and create connections with their peers.

To ensure that everyone who attends any Different Journeys event feels safe and comfortable there is a need to follow a set of rules also called a Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct ensures that there is an inclusive, safe and supportive environment for everyone, and that Different Journeys is represented as a respectful and professional organisation.

It is expected that all attendees will:

- Be polite;
- Be respectful;
- Act in a way that does not offend any person;
- Participate in creating and maintaining a safe environment for everyone;
- Be open and honest;
- Tell us if you need help;
- Talk to us in a calm manner if you are not happy about any aspect associated with Different Journeys.



It is expected that all attendees WILL NOT:

- Possess or use illegal drugs or weapons at Different Journeys' events;
- Use rude language or behaviour;
- Use bad behaviour that is unsafe for yourself and those around you;
- Threaten or use actual violence;
- Bully or harass whether verbal, physical or visual;
- Be unfair to any person associated with Different Journeys;
- Fail to cooperate with any person/organisation associated with Different Journeys.



Please note: You are expected to follow these rules as an individual or as a group associated with Different Journeys.

*We Support Celebrations*

*We Provide Connections*

*We Create Communities*

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## Breaching the Code of Conduct

If you have been found to breach the Code of Conduct you may be:

- Removed from the Different Journeys event,
- Suspended from all Different Journeys events,
- Reported to Police if your behaviour represents a criminal act.

## Resolving Issues or Concerns

Different Journeys strongly encourages any person/parent/guardian/carer who believes that any form of discrimination, harassment or bullying has occurred to contact the Chief Executive Officer Mel Spencer on 0412 698 807.

Any people/parents/guardians or carers who have any concern about the wellbeing or health and safety of themselves, a person in their care or another attendee at Different Journeys should also make immediate contact.

At all events we will have a staff member who is our "Safe Person" and their name and photo will be shown on our Powerpoint slides. If something happens at this event or someone makes you feel not safe, you can talk to our "Safe Person" for assistance.

If you do not feel safe or confident to take action you may also seek assistance from Mel Spencer (CEO) or Laura Doan (Senior Event Coordinator) for advice and support or action on their behalf.

**For enquiries please contact:**

0490 774 068 or [annette@differentjourneyautism.com](mailto:annette@differentjourneyautism.com)

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