

9.2.5 Code of Ethics

With God's help,

- 1) I will keep spiritually and emotionally healthy by following a regular discipline of spiritual growth and adequate personal recreation and selfcare.
- 2) I will act with integrity, dealing openly and honestly with those under pastoral care, maintaining a safe environment and upholding their best interests, rights and well-being, rather than my own.
- 3) I will respect the privacy of individuals and confidentiality of information. The only exception is where there is clear and imminent danger to the person or others, at which time he/she will be informed of those limits.
- 4) I will affirm the dignity and worth of each person and will ensure pastoral care is available for them without discrimination on grounds of their age, gender, race, sexual orientation, religious belief, economic status or physical or mental abilities.
- 5) I will acknowledge that people in pastoral care come from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds and will act therefore with awareness, sensitivity and responsibility,
- 6) I will recognise that it is my responsibility, whose role and status gives me greater power, to maintain personal and professional boundaries in pastoral relationships.
- 7) I will not abuse the relative power of my position by taking advantage of people for personal, financial or institutional or spiritual gain.
- 8) I will not subject anyone to sexual exploitation, harassment or abuse, and recognise that any sexual intimacy in the pastoral situation is totally unacceptable.
- 9) I will recognise that there are limits to my competence and will refer people to others better qualified when this proves necessary or desirable. I will not attempt clinical counselling without appropriate training.
- 10) I will use regular professional supervision, where appropriate or some similar process, to ensure accountability, good time management, appropriate theological reflection and a high standard of pastoral care.