

Basic Ground Rules for School Club Volunteers

1. Remember that we're ambassadors of Christ (2 Cor 5:20).
2. Dress reasonably smartly and always be on time. If you're unavoidably delayed, let your team leader know and apologise to the appropriate people when you arrive.
3. Remember it's not our school – it belongs to the staff and students who work there and to the community it serves. We're guests, there by invitation. How does a guest behave? If you're sitting in somebody else's home, how do you behave? Think about how you behave in the staff room. It's where teachers go to recover from exhausting lessons. Are you quiet and respectful? How do you walk down the corridors? Are you quiet and careful or are you barging through and shouting? Which type of behaviour would you expect from a guest? Always remember that an invitation can be withdrawn.
4. Always switch off your mobile or turn it on to silent when you are in school. Don't use the time in school to catch up on texts or chat on Facebook. Give all your attention to what's happening around you and be on the lookout for what God's doing.
5. Especially given that our aim is to serve the school by representing Christ in his servant hood – how would a servant behave in school?
6. What is the difference between running a school club and a youth group? What implications are there for our behaviour? There are things you can say and do at church based events that are not appropriate to do in school.
7. Use appropriate language like, "the Bible says", "Christians believe", "I believe" etc. The children may have chosen to come to club but they are very much still a captive audience. We must not overstep the mark and start to proselytise. 1 Peter 3:15 says, "...in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect..." We have a desire for our ministry to be marked by those qualities – gentleness and respect for all – because we know it honours God and people. This has proved to be the best way because it leads to healthy and developing relationships.
8. Remember that many faithful witnesses have gone before you to enable you to be in school at this time. Don't be the ones who close the door for Christians going into school in the future. Do anything, in humility, not to let that happen on your watch.
9. ALWAYS remember that we're ambassadors of Christ and act accordingly. Don't ask WWJD, ask What /s Jesus Doing? He has gone ahead of you and will meet you there. You'll find him at work if you're looking. Be more interested in this than anything else and join in wherever you see him working.