



VICTORIA MAORI WARDENS INC. Youth & Community Ethical Policy

Policy Statement and Purpose

Respect for basic human rights

- These include the right to food and shelter, the right to a fair trial and the right to free speech.

Respect for the individual and rights to self determination

- Young people should be recognised as unique, and not be judged on the basis of their membership to a particular group. For example, young people should not be categorised on the basis of their particular drug use.
- Young people have the right to make choices and decisions about their own lives.

Respect for different cultures and religions in society

- Wardens should value cultures and religions different to their own, they should not ridicule them or promote one religion over others.

A commitment to empowerment and participatory democracy

- Young people should have a say and role in decision-making. This includes decisions, which affect them personally, and decisions about how society should be.
- A commitment to collaborative working relationships and collective action
- Wardens should value the skills and ideas of other internal and external stakeholders and of the young people with whom they work.
- Wardens should understand that working together for a common cause is more effective than working alone.

An acknowledgement that all relationships and activities with young people are based on their consent

- Wardens need to acknowledge the unequal power relationship that exists between adults and young people and seek to ensure that young people have their rights and safety protected at all times.

Boundaries policy:

- What is appropriate touch?
 - Side hug, knuckles, handshake and/or traditional cultural greeting i.e. Hongi.
- What is inappropriate touch?
 - Restraint, sexual
- Two wardens (one must be executive/delegate) to be present with youth in our care and if a young women/female is involved a female warden must be present.
- Situational decision by Executive (or delegate) to transport members of the public.

VMWI Code of Conduct - Compliance is adhered to when engaging with Youth and Community

- Wardens to ensure they are kept up to date with changes.
- Refer to Induction Booklet for Code of Conduct, W.A.R.M.S Policy and Ten Golden Rules.