

# Code of Conduct for Ringing

## Background

Every member of ART plays their part in creating a safe, welcoming environment and in representing ringing to both Church and public.

This Code of Conduct mirrors the Code for Ringing issued by the Central Council of Church Bellringers on 1 Jan 2024, which ART have now adopted and it complements our existing [Code of Practice for ART Members](#).

This is a summary of the values of the ringing community and its expectations of all who ring, in their interactions with other ringers and when representing ringing at large. All members of ART are expected to follow this code of conduct.

## ALWAYS ✓

1. Create a tower environment where all feel safe, respected, welcomed and valued
2. Create a positive learning environment where feedback is timely and supportive
3. Respect your surroundings, the tower, church and the community where you ring
4. Understand and observe others' personal boundaries
5. Ring responsibly, with the well-being of your band and visitors in mind
6. Look out for others' safety, raise concerns promptly and know what to do if you witness unacceptable behaviour
7. Make sure all your interactions, online or in person, show empathy and courtesy
8. Consider the impact of your words and actions on others; apologise if you're at fault
9. Uphold the safeguarding policies of your parish and the ringing societies to which you belong
10. Take pride in being part of the ringing community

## NEVER ✗

1. Engage in, trivialise or endorse any form of abuse, bullying or harassment, or let these go unreported
2. Engage in banter or language which could make someone feel demeaned, threatened or unwelcome, whether in person, by phone, online or via social media
3. Undermine, ridicule or intimidate a less experienced ringer
4. Personalise disagreements; deal with the issue, not the person
5. Allow your decisions as a ringer to be compromised, by prejudice or any other cause
6. Act unlawfully in your role as a ringer or in a way that brings ringing into disreput

If you witness unacceptable behaviour and are not sure how to respond, there are a number of people you could contact for advice, as appropriate in the given circumstances:

- parish safeguarding officer
- guild/association safeguarding officer
- ART safeguarding officer [safeguarding@bellringing.org](mailto:safeguarding@bellringing.org)
- Where someone is in immediate danger or requires urgent attention, call your local authority's children's or adult social services team, or the police on 999.