



The 5 Quarters Theatre Company (5QTC) has developed this pack to help all teachers, volunteers, artistic directors, and anyone working with the Company to:

- Understand the importance of the Code of Conduct
- Receive guidance in implementing the policy in their work to demonstrate and adopt good Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct

As a worker, volunteer, or employee you act as an ambassador of the organisation, and we expect you to behave professionally and courteously. This Code of Conduct sets out the expectations that the 5 Quarters Theatre Company (5QTC) has of all those who work for it: permanent staff, freelance staff, casual staff, volunteers, interns and students (here on in referred to as 'employees'). It is based on the premise that 5QTC is a professional organisation and we expect the conduct of all those who work for it to reflect this.

Employees should at all times conduct themselves in such a way as to enhance the reputation of the Company. They should be polite, appropriately dressed and behave in a professional manner.

As an employee of 5QTC, you are expected to uphold the following core values (C.H.O.P.S):

- **Community** - Communicate, collaborate, and engage with people, external organisations, and partnerships, whilst maintaining strong relationships.
- **Humility** - Value openness and curiosity to learn from anyone, seek and provide honest feedback. Be open to personal change and continuous improvement. Learn from mistakes and successes in equal measure.
- **Originality & Variety** - Improvised and scripted pieces of theatre.
- **Professionalism** - We believe in artistic excellence and high professional standards.
- **Strong Theatrical Ensemble Work** - Devoted to creative collaboration and mutual support.

You should recognise the fact that failure to follow this Code of conduct may damage the 5 Quarters Theatre Company and its work and so will be viewed as a disciplinary matter, to be dealt with under normal disciplinary procedures up to and including dismissal. If through their actions or omissions employees are found to be in contravention of either this Policy or, indeed, their legal responsibilities then the Company reserves the right to take legal action if it deems it to be necessary to do so.

Conduct at Work

- The Company expects all employees to behave in a normal and reasonable manner. The following list provides examples of the type of conduct that the Company would expect you:
- To be punctual for the start of work and to keep within the break times.
- To give regular attendance at work and to minimise all absenteeism.
- To be courteous, helpful, and polite to all those with whom you have contact.
- To devote all your time and attention, whilst at work, to the Company and ensure that all its property including confidential information, records, equipment, information technology, etc., is kept safe and used correctly.
- To comply with all the Company's rules, regulations, policies and to observe and perform all the terms of your employment as set out or referred to in your Contract of Employment or Letter of Agreement.
- Not to be involved with any company, client or agent who is in direct competition with this Company. You are expected to devote all your loyalty to this Company.

Conduct Outside Working Hours

Outside interests include other employments, partnerships, projects, or ventures. These should be declared to the Artistic Directors as should the interests of a spouse / partner or close relative.

Normally the Company has no jurisdiction over employee activity outside working hours. Behavior outside working hours will only become an issue if the activities adversely affect the Company.

Adverse publicity, bringing the Company name into disrepute, or actions that result in loss of faith in the Company, resulting in loss of business, or loss of faith in the integrity of the individual, will result in the disciplinary procedure being instigated.

The detriment suffered by the Company will determine the level of misconduct and it will also determine which disciplinary stage is most appropriate to suit the circumstances.

If the actions cause extreme embarrassment or serious damage to the Company's reputation or image, a decision may be taken to terminate the employment.

The Company's procedures covering disciplinary hearings and appeals still apply.

Confidentiality

At all times confidentiality must be maintained. No information can be released to unauthorised persons or organisations. The Artistic Directors will inform employees of those authorised to receive information.

If doubt exists as to the validity of an organisation or individuals to receive information, this must be checked with the Artistic Directors.

We will take action when someone has deliberately breached confidentiality about the organisation, its staff and activities. This may include disciplinary action, ending a contract, firing an employee, or bringing criminal charges.

