

## BCYS SUMMER LOURDES – CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

As part of the BCYS Pilgrimage to Lourdes, I agree to;

1. **Be kind and respectful** to everyone who is a part of this pilgrimage, including but not limited to...
- Small Group Leaders, who are all here volunteering their time to ensure you are able to safely enjoy the pilgrimage and have the best experience possible. Please treat them with respect – follow their instructions and show them kindness and courtesy throughout the week.
  - Any pilgrimage leaders, including those organising the main Diocesan pilgrimage, who may give you instructions or ask for assistance from you during the week.
  - Other people in your small group.
  - Hotel, sanctuary, shop and restaurant staff around Lourdes – the BCYS have been travelling to Lourdes for over 40 years and has an outstanding reputation, which we hope to maintain!
2. **Be on time.** The week in Lourdes is very busy. We have a very strict timetable to adhere to, with bookings for venues and events made months in advance. Please ensure that you arrive prompt and prepared at the given times.
3. **Attend all meals.** Mealtimes are one of the few times we are able to be together as an entire group, and will be when important notices, changes to schedule and all other information is given to you during the day. The heat, altitude and amount of walking can also take its' toll on you physically, so it is extremely important to ensure you are eating and drinking regularly. *If there is a genuine dietary or medical issue with the food, please make your small group leader aware so that we can make adjustments for you.*
4. **Stay in groups of 3** when you have free time in Lourdes. We hope you will take time to explore Lourdes, or relax and enjoy yourself during free time however for everyone's safety we do ask you to remain in groups of **no less** than 3.
5. **Stay out of other people's rooms.** We ask you to respect other people's personal space and belongings by keeping out of each other's rooms when in the hotel. Leaders will also be conducting room checks each night to ensure everyone is safely back at the hotel and in their own rooms at the end of the day.
6. **Wear your lanyard** at all times. This will have contacts for the hotel and pilgrimage leaders, in case of emergency, printed on them and also allows you to be easily identified throughout the week.
7. **Inform us** if you have any medical diagnoses, prescriptions or additional needs, and please ensure we have the most up-to-date information prior to travelling. If any of this changes after completing your online booking form, you can inform us by email or telephone on the details at the bottom of this page. Please do also ensure that you bring and take any necessary medication which has been prescribed to you.
8. **Be physically prepared for the week.** Due to the location of hotels and geography of Lourdes, there will be a large amount of walking throughout the week, as well as pushing wheelchairs and transporting equipment between locations. This is a "service" pilgrimage, in which we are travelling to assist the main adult pilgrimage, and ask all those attending to be prepared and take care of themselves in order to be able to do this to the best of their ability.
9. **Use social media and phones appropriately.** In order to keep you and the BCYS safe, we ask you to adhere to the following rules taken from our "Safe use of the Internet and Mobile Phones" policy.
- *BCYS leaders are asked not to "follow" or "friend" young people on any form of social media, share phone numbers, email addresses or other personal contact information.*
  - *Young people should not share phone numbers, email addresses or other personal contact information with any adult pilgrims they might meet throughout the week. If you or they wish to keep in contact, do so via the BCYS – [info@bcys.net](mailto:info@bcys.net)*
  - *Please do not share photos taken with any adult pilgrims. There will be BCYS staff taking official photos throughout the week.*

**I understand that failure to follow the points in this code of conduct, or follow the instruction of the staff and leaders throughout the week may result in my being asked to leave, and may also affect my place at future BCYS events.**



Brentwood Catholic Youth Service [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net) / 01277 373959

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