



## PITCAIRN ISLAND CHILD WELLBEING CHARTER

THE GOVERNMENT OF PITCAIRN ISLAND BELIEVE THAT ALL CHILDREN ON PITCAIRN ISLAND ARE ENTITLED TO LIVE IN A SAFE AND NURTURING ENVIRONMENT. ALL RESIDENTS OF AND VISITORS TO PITCAIRN MUST RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN. ANYONE NOT ABIDING BY THE RULES BELOW SHOULD EXPECT TO BE CHALLENGED.

- WE WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY FORM OF PHYSICAL, MENTAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN
- WE WILL WORK TO SUPPORT A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS

### **WE WILL DO THIS BY:**

- ENSURING ALL ARE AWARE OF EXPECTED BEHAVIOURS
- REPORTING AND CHALLENGING ANY INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR
- UPHOLDING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN THROUGH THE LAW IF NEEDED
- EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN ABOUT 'KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE': WE ASK THAT YOU RESPECT THEM

### **WHAT WE EXPECT**

1. UNDER THE LAW ABUSE OF CHILDREN IS NOT ACCEPTABLE – OFFENDERS WILL BE PROSECUTED.
2. FOR SAFETY REASONS SOME AREAS OF THE ISLAND ARE DESIGNATED OUT OF BOUNDS TO CHILDREN AND SOME ALSO TO ADULTS UNLESS GUIDED. (SEE REVERSE)
3. ALL ISLAND CHILDREN HAVE THEIR OWN TRUSTED ADULTS AND CANNOT AND WILL NOT ENGAGE WITH ADULTS WHOM THEY DO NOT TRUST – THIS IS FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY. PARENTS WILL CREATE A SAFE ADULT LIST FOR THEIR CHILDREN.
4. CHILDREN UNDER 14 SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.
5. CHILDREN WHO GO OUT ON CRUISE SHIPS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A TRUSTED FAMILY MEMBER AT ALL TIMES AND MUST RESPECT THE RULES ON BOARD.
6. ANYONE WHO SEES A CHILD IN DISTRESS SHOULD OFFER ASSISTANCE OR CALL FOR HELP.
7. WE EXPECT THAT EACH EXTENDED FAMILY, WITH CHILDREN, WHO PROVIDE HOME-STAYS WILL HAVE A SET OF RULES FOR VISITORS AND CHILDREN.
8. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT VISITORS/TOURISTS DO NOT DRIVE A QUAD BIKE/VEHICLE WITH CHILDREN AS PASSENGERS
9. VISITORS SHOULD NOT BE UNACCOMPANIED WITH ISLAND CHILDREN.
10. VISITORS SHOULD NOT LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN UNACCOMPANIED. IF VISITING CHILDREN WANT TO SLEEP OVERNIGHT WITH A FAMILY ON ISLAND THEY MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AT LEAST ONE PARENT.
11. APPROPRIATE CLOTHING IS TO BE WORN BY CHILDREN AND ADULTS WHEN SWIMMING AND IN AND OUT OF THE WATER WHEN AROUND CHILDREN.
12. VISITORS SHOULD SEEK PERMISSION BEFORE TAKING PHOTOS OF ANY CHILDREN.
13. VISITORS SHOULD SEEK PERMISSION FROM THE HEAD TEACHER AT PULAU SCHOOL BEFORE VISITING.
14. INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR IN FRONT OF CHILDREN IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.
15. OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE/JOKES IN FRONT OF CHILDREN IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.
16. CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE EXPOSED TO ANY HAZARDOUS AREA OUTSIDE OR INSIDE THE HOME.  
(refer to Children's Ordinance 10A & 10B, Revised Laws of Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands)

WE RESPECT THAT YOU MAY WANT TO INTERACT WITH THE CHILDREN WHEN VISITING PITCAIRN – PLEASE ASK THE PARENTS/CAREGIVER FIRST.

IF YOU ARE UNSURE ABOUT ANYTHING IN THIS CHARTER PLEASE ASK A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY.

## **Safety Guide Pitcairn Island**

Please always inform someone of your intentions when you go for a walk around Pitcairn Island, especially on your own, it is an amazing and beautiful Island but like all places Pitcairn Island has its risks. A reasonable level of fitness is required for most walks. This safety list is not to put anyone off exploring but to ensure that you and others are safe while visiting Pitcairn Island.

There is a Doctor on Island but please remember that there are no hospital trauma units and no quick evacuations in cases of emergency/accidents. It can take up to three days to get a ship to divert for an emergency evacuation from Pitcairn Island. We ask that you take every care of yourself and others.

The areas listed below are considered dangerous to visit without guidance and it is strongly recommended that you take an experienced guide with you. Your host family or Tourism will be able to assist you with finding a guide.

**St Pauls' Pool:** While generally safe to visit and take photographs, do not swim or walk around this pool on your own, the wave and tidal surges can be unpredictable and dangerous.

**Down Rope:** Do not go without an experienced guide. Steep and narrow paths, no hand rails.

**Tautama:** Do not go without an experienced guide. Steep and narrow paths, no hand rails.

**Garnets/Gannets Ridge:** Not considered safe in strong winds. Has very narrow ridge walk, no hand rails.

**Christians Cave:** Not as risky as other areas however it is a steep walk up and back down with no hand rails and a slippery surface. We recommended that you do not go alone. Care should be taken.

**Ship Landing Point:** Strongly recommended that you do not go past the barrier. Children should be kept behind barrier at all times. Narrow ridge, slippery, no rails. Please do not climb out onto the 'nose' as this is very dangerous.

**Down the Gods:** Do not go without a guide. Narrow, very steep in parts and slippery, walk involves cliff climbing and crossing steep slopes.

We hope that you enjoy your time on Pitcairn and take the opportunity to explore our many stunning places. The community is always willing to assist visitors, take you exploring, fishing or talk to you about Pitcairn Island, ask someone and they will help.

## **Revised Laws of Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands**

### **Children's Ordinance:**

**10A.** It shall be the duty of all persons who have responsibility for the operation of workplaces:

- a) To determine whether the operation of that workplace or the nature of the work involved is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children, and if so determined to then ensure that no children are in the workplace; and
- b) To comply with any instructions relation to the safety of a workplace given by or under the hand of a Constable.

**10B.** – (1) A person who has responsibility for a workplace and who allows any child to be in that workplace in circumstances where that child is exposed to the risk of harm to his or her health and safety commits an offence punishable by summary conviction and is liable to maximum fine of \$250 for a first offence and \$500 for any subsequent offence.

(2) In this Ordinance "workplace" means any place in which:

- a) goods (including food) are manufactured for sale or trade;
- b) construction of roads, buildings or other structures is being undertaken;
- c) public work is being carried on under the Local Government Regulations;
- d) heavy machinery is being used for any purpose – provided that no part of a private home shall be deemed a workplace on account of subparagraph (a) above unless it is a room or area set aside wholly for the manufacture of goods (including food) for sale or trade.