

# *Hope Community Bible Church*

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## **Children's Standards of Behavior**

The Board of Elders of Hope community Bible Church is beginning to put several of the pieces together for our upcoming AWANA Children's ministry.

One of the areas being worked on is the issue of implementing a child protection policy. In the day and age in which we live, we find it necessary to put rules and guidelines down to protect our children from harm's way; to provide a sense of security for our parents; and to protect our adults from even the appearance of evil.

As the policy is being worked out, we would like to lay some of the preliminary groundwork by asking our children, and the parents of our children, to learn to respect those who are older in the church.

***As a general rule, our children should not be climbing on and wrestling with, or being unduly held by the non-family members of our congregation.***

Our concern is that our children would not be learning to respect all the members, especially the older ones of the church, and such behavior could prove to be harmful if someone were to fall.

Additionally, while we have several adults with whom our children love to play and wrestle with, allowing such behavior not only potentially puts the children in harm's way by way of accident, but could give a potential appearance of impropriety on the part of said adult, something that we would want to avoid at all costs.

In light of all these things, we are asking both our children and our adults not to allow or engage in horseplay, wrestling or the like at the church. We are asking the parents to be very much aware of where their children are and to be training them to respect the older members of our congregation.

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