

CHARTER FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF PEACE CLUBS

The significance of peace cannot be underestimated and overlooked in such a chaotic and confused time as we have in our nation today. The peace club mandate came out of our 2013 Peace Conference, a programme of the Psychology and Peace Foundation hosted by Godfrey Okoye University. The philosophy of the Psychology and Peace Foundation is based on the cardinal foundations of promotion of unity (in character, personality and knowledge), promotion of dialogue (religious, cultural and epistemic) and the promotion of love (human being and God, human beings and their neighbours and within the self). The Peace club therefore is rooted on the philosophy of the Psychology and Peace Foundation.

Outcomes of Peace Clubs

The expected benefits of participation in Peace Club are:

- ◆ Presence of more peace role models
- ◆ Reduced youth violence
- ◆ Improved teacher-student relationship
- ◆ Improved parent-child relationship
- ◆ Improved peer relationship
- ◆ Greater discipline among youth
- ◆ More law-abiding youth
- ◆ Greater altruism among youth
- ◆ Improved citizenship participation and social responsibility
- ◆ Informed youths (youths who are knowledgeable about their duties and rights)

Setting up a Peace Club

35 - 40 youths can start a peace club. If an educational institution has several tiers (e.g., university, secondary and primary school), a junior, intermediate and senior Peace Club could be established. In each case, the club will be called Peace Club. Membership should be drawn from all levels. For university, membership will consist 100, 200, 300, 400, 500 levels. In the Secondary Schools, membership should be made up of JSS 1, JSS 2, JSS 3, SSI, SS2, and SS3. At the primary school level, membership would comprise primary 1 to 6. The goal of having a representative of each level in a Peace Club is to ensure that whatever is discussed by the club can be reported by the peace ambassadors to their class. Staff members are to constitute their own Peace Club. This will ensure that peace discussions and activities permeate the entire institution.

Each new peace club should register their formation with the peace club initiator. There is no fee for registration. The purpose of the registration is to ensure that all peace clubs get information from the Youth Peace Conference forum.

Admission of New Members

New members are admitted provisionally to the club. But a day should be set aside for official admission of the new members which will involve ceremonies like official peace prayer, pledge and medal. The Official admission should be presided over by the grand patron or his delegate.

Meeting schedule

Peace clubs shall meet once every two weeks for a period of 40 minutes

Mentor

A teacher shall be assigned to mentor the Peace Club in each institution. The teacher shall ensure the active participation of the peace ambassadors in the preparation of the calendar of events. Events shall include small speeches, stories, essays, drawings, photography, open discussions, poems, drama, learning about peaceful individuals and community service activities.

Offices

Each Peace Club shall have the following officers:

Grand Patron who shall be the mentor,
Coordinator who shall be responsible for chairing the meetings of the club,
Assistant Coordinator who shall chair the meetings in the absence of the Coordinator
Secretary who shall keep the records of the club,
Public Relations Officer (PRO) who shall ensure the discipline of the members and project same to the public,
Treasurer who shall be responsible for the safe keep of the funds of the club, and
Financial Secretary who shall keep the financial records of the club.

Club Account

Each Peace Club must safeguard its fund with a bank. The signatories to the account shall be the Coordinator and the Treasurer.

Exhibition of Peace Activities

A board should be designated for showcasing the activities of the peace clubs in pictures, poetry, drawings, stories etc.

Peace Pledge

Peace club members shall renew their peace pledge each year on the day selected for the annual Youth Peace Conference.

Registration of Peace Clubs

Each Peace Club shall register with the national body. The officers of the club shall complete the Peace Club Registration form and forward it to the national coordinator, Chidiebere Njoku.

Training of Peace Club Members and Mentors

Trainings shall be provided to club members and their mentors each year during the Youth Peace Conference.

Peace Awards

Each year, teachers and peace ambassadors who have exemplified peace virtues shall be honoured at the Youth Peace Conference.

Global Call to Action

This is a call by Peace JAM for individuals "to take action and create, nonviolent solutions to problems they see in their communities. Peace Clubs shall begin their actions from their school and home environment and extend their social responsibility to the larger community.

Examples of Global Call to Peace Action Projects

- ✧ Breaking the cycle of violence in our schools and homes
- ✧ Access to water and other natural resources
- ✧ Ending tribalism, nepotism, Osu Caste system and hate
- ✧ Halting spread of global diseases like malaria and HIV
- ✧ Alleviating poverty
- ✧ Social Justice and human rights
- ✧ Upholding the rights of women and children
- ✧ Ending the unjust widow traditions in the country
- ✧ Eliminating child trafficking and labour
- ✧ Respecting the dignity of human persons
- ✧ Restoring the environment

Nigerian School-based Peace Club Coordinator
Chidiebere Njoku

Contact Information:

Office of the Vice Chancellor

Godfrey Okoye University

PMB 01014

Thinkers Corner, Enugu

Telephone: 0806 561 3687

Email: cnjoku@gouni.edu.ng

Instituteofpeace026@gmail.com

Peace Club Registration Form

Please provide the following information about your Peace Club:

Name of Institution: _____

Name of the head of your Institution _____

Mailing Address: _____

Day Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Officers of your club (Name & Phone number)

Grand Patron _____
Coordinator _____
Assistant Coordinator _____
Secretary _____
Public Relations Officer _____
Treasurer _____
Financial Secretary _____

Meeting day of your club _____

Your Global Call to Peace Action Project(s) _____

Official commencement date of your club _____

How did you hear about the Peace Club? _____

Signature of Coordinator: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of Grand Patron: _____ **Date:** _____

Please mail or email this form to:

Peace Club
c/o Chidiebere Njoku
Office of the Vice Chancellor
Godfrey Okoye University
P.M.B. 01014
Thinkers Corner, Enugu

Email: cnjoku@gouni.edu.ng