



Guidance on Online Engagement for Rise Participants

Rise, an initiative of Schmidt Futures and the Rhodes Trust, is a program that finds promising young people and provides opportunity for life as they work to serve others.

At Rise, we value your safety and wellbeing—including on digital platforms. We are a global community, which means many of the interactions you have with other community members will be online, whether on Zoom, Discord, or social media.

This document includes guidance to ensure you are respectful, respected, and safe in online environments. As a general rule, the same polite behavior you would show during in-person interactions is how you should also conduct yourself online.

This document should be read alongside the [Code of Conduct for Rise Participants](#), which explains in further detail the types of behavior and actions that are acceptable during Rise interactions.

This document provides guidance on online Rise interactions so you stay safe and set yourself up for success:

- Look After Yourself
- Look After Others
- Demonstrate Integrity
- Be Informed
- Participate Fully in Activities

Look After Yourself

- If anything makes you feel uncomfortable or if you have any concerns about your safety, raise them early by emailing safeguarding@risefortheworld.org or via the [Rise Hotline](#).
 - If a direct message, conversation, or shared piece of content ever makes you uncomfortable or upset in a Rise environment, tell the Rise Designated Safeguarding Leads. This in no way affects your application or benefit as a Finalist or Rise Global Winner, and instead makes the entire community safer and stronger.
- Do not share private information, such as your location or contact information, with anyone online.
- If anyone you interact with online, with whom you do not have a previous relationship with, asks you to meet in person, do not meet. Instead, tell an adult you trust or contact a Rise Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately.
- Do not accept any invitations or click on any links from people who you do not know and which have not been distributed by the Rise Team.

Look After Others

- Treat all those you interact with respectfully, even in the midst of disagreements.
- Assume the best of everyone, demonstrating empathy without judgment or discrimination.

- Do not solicit financial support from Rise participants or representatives outside of formal application pathways.
- Raise any safety concerns you have on someone else's behalf by emailing safeguarding@risefortheworld.org.

Demonstrate Integrity

- Throughout the Rise application process, follow the rules and demonstrate integrity in all that you do.
- Do not get assistance from a parent, friend, teacher, other applicant, or anyone else that could in any way constitute cheating.
- Do not share information about your application or Finalist Day process with any other applicant, as this could provide an unfair advantage—and, in the end, disadvantage yourself or others.
- Show the best version of yourself, and do not block others from being able to do the same.
- Do not record any Rise activities at any point during the application process.

Be Informed

- Read the Rise safeguarding policies at www.risefortheworld.org/safeguarding.
- Make sure you know and understand the Rise Traits, and that you uphold them at all times.

Participate Fully in Activities

- When you join a Rise activity, make sure you do NOT display your location (the Rise Team already has this information!).
- Keep your camera on during Rise activities where possible.
- Set up your device in a room with no distractions, and ensure that there is no private or personal information showing that you would not want others to see.
- Have a neutral background or the Rise background where provided.
- Keep your microphone muted at all times to avoid background noise, unless you are prompted to speak to the group.
- When others are speaking, let them finish sharing their thoughts before you turn on your microphone to speak after them.
- Do NOT record or take screenshots of Rise meetings, workshops, or activities. If you would like to reference something from a past event, contact the Rise Team.
- Do NOT share inappropriate or explicit messages, images, or videos in chat rooms or through direct messaging (as defined in the [Rise Safeguarding Glossary](#)).
- Only share your screen if you are asked to do so by a member of the Rise Team or a Rise representative leading the activity; when you do share your screen, ensure you are only sharing the window that you wish to be viewed and turn off notifications on your device to avoid distractions.



More Resources

If you still have questions or want to learn more about conducting interactions safely online, you can access the additional Rise policies: [Rise Safeguarding Policy](#), [Rise Safeguarding Glossary](#), [Guidance on Online Engagement for Rise Participants](#), and the [Rise Code of Conduct](#).

You may also find these resources useful:

- [How to communicate civilly online](#)
- [Being a good digital citizen](#)