

# Parents Guide to Collaborations

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## The Collaboration Compass: A Guideline & Checklist for Parents

As a parent of an aspiring model, especially someone between the ages of 14–18, your support and guidance can make a world of difference. The fashion and modelling industry can be exciting, but also unfamiliar and at times, overwhelming. Many parents don't come from this world and may feel unsure about how to help their child navigate it safely and wisely—especially when it comes to the idea of "collaborations."

This guideline is designed to give you clarity and confidence. It is here to help you ask the right questions, spot red flags and ensure that your child is entering into respectful, fair, and valuable collaborations that help—not harm—their journey.

### What Is a Collaboration?

A collaboration is when two or more people come together to create something—be it a photoshoot, a campaign or a content piece—by combining their individual skills and resources. In modelling, it often includes a model, photographer, makeup artist, stylist, or brand working together mostly without monetary exchange.

True collaborations are mutually beneficial. Each person involved should feel seen, respected and valued. Unfortunately, the term is often misused to justify one-sided deals where young talent may be exploited in the name of "exposure."

Your role is to help your child recognise the difference.

### What Should a Good Collaboration Look Like?

- ✓ Clear communication and agreement on what each party is bringing to the table
- ✓ A safe, professional and respectful environment
- ✓ An opportunity for growth, learning or meaningful exposure
- ✓ Equal benefit: your child should receive something valuable in return—images, visibility, credits, learning, networking, etc.
- ✓ No pressure to compromise values, boundaries or safety

### Checklist for Parents: Questions to Ask

- Who is involved in the collaboration?
- Have you checked their profiles, previous work and reputation?
- Where will the collaboration take place?
- Is it in a safe, public or professionally supervised space?
- Who is going to be present during the shoot/event?
- Will there be other models, assistants or adults around?

- • What is the concept or goal of the shoot/collaboration?
- • Is it aligned with your child's values and goals?
- • What will your child receive in return? Photos? Credits? Experience? Social media exposure?
- • Is everything being discussed clearly over messages or emails? Transparency in communication is key. Ask to see these conversations.
- • Can you or a trusted adult accompany your child? For minors, this should be non-negotiable.
- • Will there be a written agreement or at least a confirmation of terms?
- • What are your child's instincts saying? Encourage open communication. If something feels off, it probably is.
- • Are they excited and learning from the experience? A good collaboration should feel fulfilling and inspiring.

### Encouraging Independence with Support

You obviously don't want to control every decision your child makes—but being informed and involved in key moments can make all the difference. Teach them how to trust their intuition, ask questions and value themselves. This is also an opportunity for them to learn life skills like negotiation, professionalism and self-respect.

### Final Thoughts

You are your child's biggest cheerleader—and their safety net. With your encouragement, wisdom, and watchful eye, they can pursue their dreams with confidence and safety. By understanding what a true collaboration means, you're not only protecting them, but also empowering them to build a strong, ethical and sustainable career in fashion.

We are in this together. Let us help the next generation rise—ethically, beautifully and powerfully.

Grateful,  
 Kal Kalim, Creative Director  
 Australian Supermodel of the Year  
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