

BLYTH AND DISTRICT MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

Purpose

The member code of conduct clarifies the standard of behaviour expected from each Blyth and District u3a member.

Scope

Relevant to all Blyth and District u3a members and guests.

Member Code of Conduct

- Members are expected to know, follow and promote the principles of the u3a movement at every opportunity. The Principles are to be found on the u3a website and are reproduced below
- Members must always act in the best interests of Blyth and District u3a and the u3a Movement. They must strive to uphold its reputation and never do anything which could bring Blyth and District u3a, or the u3a Movement into disrepute or expose it to undue risk.
- Members are expected to use Blyth and District u3a's resources responsibly and only to further its stated charitable objectives
- Members are expected to abide by Blyth and District u3a's procedures and practices.
- Members are expected to treat each other with dignity and respect at all times.

The Principles of the u3a Movement

- The u3a movement is non-religious and non-political and has three main principles:

The Third Age Principle

- Membership of a u3a is open to all in their third age, which is defined not by a particular age but by a period in life in which full time employment has ceased.
- Members promote the values of lifelong learning and the positive attributes of belonging to a u3a.
- Members should do all they can to ensure that people wanting to join a u3a can do so.



The Self-help Learning Principle

- Members form interest groups covering as wide a range of topics and activities as they desire; by the members, for the members.
- No qualifications are sought or offered. Learning is for its own sake, with enjoyment being the prime motive, not qualifications or awards.
- There is no distinction between the learners and the teachers; they are all u3amembers.

The Mutual Aid Principle

- Each u3a is a mutual aid organisation, operationally independent but a member of The Third Age Trust, which requires adherence to the guiding principles of the u3a movement.
- No payments are made to members for services rendered to any u3a.
- Each u3a is self-funded with membership subscriptions and costs kept as low as possible.
- Outside financial assistance should only be sought if it does not imperil the integrity of the u3a movement.

Related Documentation

Complaints Procedure
 Disciplinary Procedure
 Grievance Procedure

u3a	Code of Conduct	JG Blyth u3a
Version	Initial Document	26/1/23
	Reviewed 16/9/25 next review	18/9/26