



VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION POLICY

Policy Statement

Everyone has different levels of vulnerability, and each member may be regarded as vulnerable at some time. All members who may be regarded as vulnerable have a right to protection from all types of harm or abuse.

The Ashford, Wye & District U3A (“U3A Group”) believes that it is always unacceptable for a vulnerable adult to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all vulnerable adults by a commitment to practise all that protects them.

We recognise that:

- The U3A Group recognises that the welfare of vulnerable adults is paramount.
- All vulnerable adults, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.

The purpose of the policy is:

- To provide protection for any vulnerable adults who are involved with the activities of the U3A Group.
- To provide members and course leaders with guidance and procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a vulnerable adult may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

This policy applies to all members, including officers, course leaders, or anyone engaged in the activities of the organisation.

The U3A Group will endeavour to safeguard vulnerable adults by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them.
- Adopting vulnerable adult protection guidelines through procedures and codes of conduct as issued from time to time by appropriate authorities.
- Ensuring all members feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse.
- Do all it can to help members who may be vulnerable, to be and remain active contributors within U3A Group.

- If they are, or become unable to contribute independently, the U3A Group will encourage them to bring a companion/ carer with them in order that they can continue to enjoy the benefits of U3A membership.
- Ensuring that members are aware of their responsibilities to protect vulnerable adults.
- Ensuring that vulnerable adults are not placed in any form of risk or danger from any obvious Health & Safety issues.

The Policy will be reviewed annually by the U3A Group.

Signature of Ashford, Wye & District U3A Chairman
Print name.
Date