

**u3a Harborne & Edgbaston**  
(Registered Charity No: 1101356)

**Member Code of Conduct**

**Purpose**

The Member Code of Conduct clarifies the standard of behaviour expected from each u3a member.

**Scope**

Relevant to all u3a members.

**Member Code of Conduct**

- Members are expected to know, follow and promote the Principles of the u3s Movement (see below) at every opportunity.
- Members must always act in the best interests of Harborne & Edgbaston u3a and the u3a Movement, strive to uphold its reputation and never do anything which could bring Harborne & Edgbaston u3a, another u3a or the u3a Movement into disrepute or expose it to undue risk.
- Members are expected to use Harborne & Edgbaston u3a's resources responsibly and only to further its stated charitable objects/purposes.
- Members are expected to reflect the current organisational policy of Harborne & Edgbaston u3a, regardless of whether it conflicts with their personal views.
- Members are expected to abide by Harborne & Edgbaston u3a's procedures and practices.
- Members are expected to treat each other with dignity and respect at all times.

**Guiding Principles of The Third Age Trust**

**Our Vision**

Our Vision is to make lifelong learning, through the experience of u3a, a reality for all third agers.

## **Our Mission**

Our Mission declares our purpose as an organisation and serves as the standard against which we weigh our actions and decisions. It is to:

- Facilitate the growth of the u3a Movement.
- Provide support for management and learning in u3as
- Raise the profile of the u3a Movement.
- Promote the benefits of learning in later life through self-help learning.

## **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 u3a members.

## **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 u3 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.

Source:

Third Age Trust website

<https://www.u3a.org.uk/advice>

Member Code of Conduct, including Guiding Principles

The text has been taken from the Third Age Trust document

Adopted: 8 June 2023