

Members Code of Conduct

Introduction

Our u3a like all u3as, is run entirely by members for members. The Roding Valley Committee of Trustees has developed this Code of Conduct to help us remain a vibrant, friendly, inclusive organisation.

Before enrolling, prospective members are asked to familiarise themselves with the Principles of the U3A Movement (see attachment) and this Code.

The Code

Members are expected to know, follow and promote the Principles of the u3a Movement at every opportunity.

Members must always act in the best interests of Roding Valley u3a and the u3a Movement, strive to uphold its reputation and never do anything which could bring their own, another u3a or the u3a Movement into disrepute or expose it to undue risk.

The u3a is a non-political and non-religious organisation and Members may not share material of this nature with other u3a Members.

Members are expected to reflect the ethos of Roding Valley u3a, regardless of whether it conflicts with their personal views.

Members may only use the membership information provided by Roding Valley u3a for matters associated with u3a business or group activities and not for personal purposes.

Members must observe strict confidentiality regarding other members' personal information to which they may have access and never disclose such information to a third party without permission.

Members should have a care for the wellbeing and safety of other members and the organisation by:

- Always treating each other with dignity and respect.
- Being punctual and reliable in attending U3A activities and wherever possibly notifying non-attendance, longer absence or withdrawal from groups and other commitments.
- Avoiding all forms of behaviour that may discriminate against, intimidate or harm other members or disrupt meetings or events.
- Participating safely in groups and activities, abiding by any reasonable directive or prerequisite specified by the group or event leader.

Members are expected to use Roding Valley u3a's resources responsibly and only to further its stated charitable objects/purposes.

Members must take personal responsibility for their own safety when attending groups and main meetings.

Members are expected to abide by Roding Valley u3a's procedures and practices.

Adherence to the code is a condition of membership of Roding Valley u3a

Awaiting approval by Roding Valley Committee of Trustees – June 2023

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 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.

u3a	History	
Version	Description of changes	Date
0.1	Formal documentation – Draft	24 5 23