

Palmers Green and Southgate (PG&S)

MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

Purpose

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

Scope

Relevant to all u3a members.

Member Code of Conduct

- Members are expected to know, follow and promote the Principles of the u3a Movement at every opportunity. (Please see below for the u3a Guiding Principles).
- Members are expected to abide by and promote the u3a Code of Conduct, details available from:
<https://www.u3a.org.uk/about/about-the-trust/code-of-conduct?highlight=WyJ0aGlyZCIsImFnZSIsInRydXN0IiwY29kZSIsIm9mliwiY29uZHVjdCJd>
- Members must always act in the best interests of PG&S 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.
- Members are expected to use PG&S u3a's resources responsibly and only to further its stated charitable objects/purposes.
- Members are expected to reflect the current organisational policy of PG&S u3a, regardless of whether it conflicts with their personal views.
- Members are expected to abide by PG&S u3a's procedures and practices.
- Members are expected to treat each other with dignity and respect at all times.

*Issued by the PG&S u3a Committee
Last reviewed June 2026*

The Guiding Principles of the U3A Movement

(available from <https://www.u3a.org.uk/about/about-the-trust/the-u3a-story>)

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 when full-time employment has ceased
- Members of a u3a promote the values of lifelong learning and the positive attributes of belonging to a u3a

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- Members of a u3a should do all they can to ensure that everyone who wishes to join a u3a can do so.

The Self-help Learning Principle

- Members of a u3a form interest groups, covering as wide a range of topics and activities as they desire, by the membership for the membership
- 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 members of a u3a.

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 individual 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.

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