

Ashby u3a Policy on Non-members

Participation by Non-members, Children and Animals at Ashby u3a Activities.

Aims of Policy

The Aims of the Policy on the participation, or otherwise, by non-members, members of other u3a's participating under our reciprocal arrangements who are deemed to be members of Ashby u3a for this purpose, children or animals at Ashby u3a activities are generally to comply with Third Age Trust requirements and to comply with the Charities Act with regard to Child Safeguarding Compliance.

Allowable and non-allowable participation

A non-member trying an activity prior to deciding to join:

This is acceptable subject to the Group leader being informed and giving approval. Attendance by a non-member is allowed only once for each activity. To participate further the person would be expected to join Ashby u3a. A Group may be temporarily closed to new participants, whether new or existing members of Ashby u3a, if it has reached its limit on numbers that can be accommodated. This may be due to a lack of space at a venue or if the Leader feels that they cannot cope with any more people. Some of the learning Groups may not wish to take on beginners if the other members have reached a more advanced stage.

Non-members attending an external activity

This is acceptable on an occasional basis. They are not covered by the Third Age Trust's Public Liability insurance.

Carers and Companions:

Carers or companions may attend activities with their charge subject to Committee approval. The carer/companion should not take part in any u3a activities as an individual unless they are themselves members.

Children under the age of 18:

Children should not attend any u3a activity, including walking or even in a member's home, as this will invalidate the Third Age Trust's Public Liability insurance. We would also need to conform to the requirements of the Charities Act with regard to Safeguarding Compliance. Amongst other things, we would have to appoint a Safeguarding Officer and set up safeguarding procedures, even for just one child attending one event.

Dogs and other animals:

It is acceptable to bring dogs to a Walking Group subject to the Group Leader's agreement. Dogs must be kept under control at all times, particularly near farm or other animals.

Guide dogs and other assistance dogs are allowed into any of our venues or homes, subject to the homeowner's agreement, but other dogs or animals should not be brought to u3a activities.

When activities take place in member's homes, it would be prudent to make sure that in circumstances where the home owner has pets, such pets are kept in a separate room to that in which the activity is taking place. Not everyone is a pet lover and there may be members who have allergies, phobias or fears about certain pets.

This policy was implemented on	9th October 2018
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Reviewed and revised	13 February 2024
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Next review date	February 2027
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