

U3A Bendigo Code of Conduct

Introduction

U3A Bendigo Incorporated recognises that the climate of an organisation is an essential element in establishing its credibility and furthering its mission. The U3A movement in Victoria is dedicated to providing a competent service to Third Age members of the community. U3A Bendigo undertakes to provide its members with a trustworthy, fair and honest environment based upon equal opportunity to participate in its activities.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to document U3A Bendigo's Code of Conduct for members and the processes that will be followed where a breach of the Code of Conduct is reported. **Note:** mention of the Code of Conduct is also in the Members Handbook.

Policy

U3A Bendigo commits itself to operating in accordance with this Code of Conduct for the benefit and protection of the organisation and of members' personal rights.

1. Every member of U3A Bendigo has the right to:
 - feel safe and respected
 - a supportive and positive learning environment
 - participate in learning, social and recreational opportunities
 - receive services fully compliant with U3A norms
 - make a complaint and receive prompt and fair resolution thereof
 - have access to guidelines, policies and procedures adopted by U3A Bendigo.
2. Every member of U3A Bendigo has the responsibility to:
 - respect the beliefs, needs and background of others
 - act and speak respectfully
 - understand and follow the organisation's guidelines, policies and procedures
 - carry out all activities in an appropriate manner
 - work cooperatively for the benefit of all members
 - maintain positive relationships
 - care for the property and possessions of the organisation and members
 - help create an inclusive environment
 - report actual or potentially unsafe situations or conduct
 - wear a name badge to assist in the governance of the organisation
3. The principles set out in this Code of Conduct are intended to apply to any U3A-related context including classes, activities, auspiced social functions, meetings, conferences and holiday trips.
4. The principles set out in this Code of Conduct apply equally to all members.
5. A breach of this Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action.

Procedures

Where a person believes they have been subject to treatment or conduct that is in breach of this Code of Conduct he/she may lodge a complaint with U3A Bendigo Secretary. The Secretary will inform the President immediately.

1. Any complaint of a breach of this Code of Conduct will be handled in accordance with U3A Bendigo's Model Rules.
2. Any queries about this Code of Conduct should be referred to U3A Bendigo's Secretary.

Responsibilities

1. U3A Bendigo's Committee of Management is responsible for:
 - developing, adopting, implementing, publishing and reviewing this Code of Conduct
 - investigating and resolving any complaint made about a breach of this Code of Conduct.
2. U3A Bendigo's Secretary is responsible for
 - receiving and responding to enquiries about this Code of Conduct
 - receiving complaints about an alleged breach of this Code of Conduct and for bringing the matter before the Committee of Management promptly.

Authorisation

This policy was adopted by Committee of Management of U3A Bendigo Incorporated, and minuted as such, on 7th June 2021.