

The Chatty Café Scheme

Attendee Code of Conduct

The Chatty Café Scheme aims to encourage participants of Chatter & Natter tables to get together to chat, with an aim to reduce loneliness and connect communities.

It is of utmost importance to The Chatty Café Scheme that every person attending a Chatter & Natter table has a positive experience and to that end, we invite all volunteers, attendees, venues, and others ("Participants") to help us realize a safe, respectful, and positive experience for everyone. When you participate in an event at a Chatter & Natter table, you are contributing to the overall experience, which makes us all accountable to each other.

The Chatty Café Scheme has established this Code of Conduct to provide guidelines to Participants and to ensure that all Participants understand what behaviour is expected, and what behaviour will not be tolerated at a Chatter & Natter table.

The Chatty Café Scheme expects all Participants to abide by this Code of Conduct at all Chatter & Natter events and any related social media.

The Chatty Café Scheme is dedicated to providing a harassment-free and inclusive event experience for everyone regardless of gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disabilities, neurodiversity, physical appearance, body size, ethnicity, nationality, race, age, religion, or other protected category.

Participants asked to stop any harassing behaviour are expected to comply immediately.

Expected Behaviour

The Chatty Café Scheme expects that all Chatter & Natter table Participants will:

1. Be considerate and respectful to each other.
2. Be respectful of other opinions and view points, even if these differ from your own beliefs.
3. Listen to each other and allow everyone the opportunity to speak.
4. Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behaviour, materials, and speech.
5. Respect any individual who chooses not to engage with verbal communication immediately - be patient with each other.
6. Be mindful of the environment, i.e. no physical contact or encroaching on each other's personal space.
7. Respect personal preference. Not everyone may feel comfortable sharing personal details or experiences, certain subjects may be emotionally triggering for some individuals.
8. Participants should respect personal boundaries of others. Requesting personal information could be considered intrusive and Participants should not seek unnecessary information from others that is not relevant to the Chatter & Natter session.

9. Speak up if anything at a Chatter & Natter table conflicts with this Code of Conduct.

Unacceptable Behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour from any Chatter & Natter table Participant will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Intimidating, harassing, abusive, discriminatory, derogatory, or demeaning speech, materials, or conduct by any Participants of the Chatter & Natter table and related event activities. Many event venues are shared with members of the public; please be respectful to all patrons of these locations.
2. Violence, threats of violence, or violent language directed against another person.
3. Sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic, or otherwise discriminatory jokes and language.
4. Personal insults, particularly those related to gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, or disability.
5. Inappropriate photography or recording.
6. Taking of photos at the Chatter & Natter table for use on social media, without the prior permission of the individuals or owners of the content therein.
7. Any boisterous, lewd, or offensive behaviour or language, including but not limited to using sexually explicit or offensive language, materials or conduct, or any language, behaviour, or content that contains profanity, obscene gestures, or racial, religious, or ethnic slurs.
8. Failure to obey any rules or regulations of the event venue.

Consequences of Unacceptable Behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated. Anyone asked to stop unacceptable behaviour is expected to comply immediately.

If a Participant engages in unacceptable behaviour, The Chatty Café Scheme Volunteer(s) may take appropriate and proportionate action including verbal warnings or asking a Participant to leave the event.

What to do if you witness or are subjected to unacceptable behaviour

If you are subjected to unacceptable behaviour, notice that someone else is being subjected to unacceptable behaviour, or have any other concerns, please notify The Chatty Café Scheme's Volunteer(s) who will be available to assist those experiencing unacceptable behaviour to feel safe for the duration of the event.