



Membership Code of Conduct

Genetic Alliance UK is an alliance of charities and support groups working together. Our members and the people living with genetic and rare conditions they support are at the heart of everything we do: listening to their experience, learning from their expertise, helping members share knowledge with each other, and ensuring our voices are stronger when we work together.

We are keen to involve as many members as possible in our work, as we believe that our voices are stronger when we work together. We respect our members, and in return we ask that they respect our Alliance and our staff by agreeing to abide by the following Membership Code of Conduct.

Members of Genetic Alliance UK, (both individually and collectively) agree:

- To support the strategic aims and charitable objectives of Genetic Alliance UK.
- To respect the experience, expertise, knowledge and voices of other members and Genetic Alliance UK staff.

- To support other members and staff and not to discriminate against, bully or harass other members or staff, including on the basis of (but not exclusively/limited to) age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, maternity and pregnancy, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.
- To treat other members and staff with dignity and respect at all times and not engage in sexual harassment. Sexual harassment occurs when someone is subjected to unwanted conduct which is of a sexual nature. The conduct need not be sexually motivated, only sexual in nature.
- To protect the Alliance's reputation and the reputation of our members and staff by not engaging in any activities and/or behaviour which may adversely affect the Alliance's standing or compromise its integrity.
- To inform Genetic Alliance UK as soon as reasonably practicable, in the event of any matter arising which could significantly affect the standing of the member organisation.
- To support our promotional activities when using content and copy provided for campaigns including the annual Rare Disease Day, for which we authorise our logos and templates to be used by external organisations without restriction.
- To seek our express written permission (as we do in return when working with our members) if wishing to:
 - act or speak on behalf of Genetic Alliance UK (including our long-standing projects Rare Disease UK and SWAN UK);
 - use our name, project names and logos for external communications (including Rare Disease UK and SWAN UK);
 - produce copy that refers to an initiative from Genetic Alliance UK that is supported or sponsored by a supporter or

- partner organisation or individual (apart from campaigns including the annual Rare Disease Day);
- o issue press releases that refer to Genetic Alliance UK (including Rare Disease UK and SWAN UK).

Member organisations must comply with the Membership Code of Conduct set by our Board of Trustees or risk termination of their membership. The process for termination of membership is set out in [Genetic Alliance UK's Articles of Association](#).

Our Membership Code of Conduct is regularly reviewed by our Board of Trustees.

Approved – January 2026
For review – January 2027