

Safer Space Policy

Bloc Projects

Bloc Projects events are open to all and free of charge wherever possible. We are therefore committed to offering platforms in which a wide range of people from different backgrounds can share, discuss, and question issues with one another. To this end, we ask this of our participants above all: **please speak and listen with care. Be aware of the space and attention you are taking up.**

Bloc Projects' Safer Space policy outlines our organisational accountability and expectations in group settings both public and private. The agreements below are ever-evolving to reflect the needs and suggestions of those who attend our events. We have used the policies drawn up by the Social Art Network (SAN) and the now-defunct LaDIYfest Sheffield as a basis for this document, with revisions:

1. We aim to hold events and workshops that welcome people of all genders, abilities, ages, ethnicities and sexualities. As such, any form of discriminatory language or behaviour will not be tolerated.
2. Respect the physical and emotional boundaries of others. Ask for explicit verbal consent before engaging in any physical contact with someone and be aware of personal boundaries.
3. Try not to assume the opinions and identifications of other participants without kindly asking first.
4. Make a conscious effort not to judge, dismiss, or compete with other participants.
5. Foster a spirit of mutual respect by listening patiently to what is being said, especially if the views being expressed are not your own.
6. At the same time, be confident in expressing your opposition in non-confrontational ways.
7. Be generous with your attention. Let others share their ideas and wait your turn to speak.
8. Be mindful of the time and space you are taking up.
9. Be mindful of the language that you are using and explain any acronyms and complex language clearly.
10. Always remember: 'Respect the person; challenge their behaviour.' Interruptions must be done in the spirit of care.
11. These agreements are shared by virtue of your participation in a Bloc Projects event or meeting. If someone violates any of them, a discussion or mediation process can happen with the help of another person. This depends on the wishes of the one who was violated. If a serious violation happens to the extent that someone feels unsafe, the offending party can be asked to leave the space and/or event all together. Those present can nominate the person or process that can mediate if needed.
12. Adhering to these agreements is a collective responsibility and everyone is individually responsible for checking their own behaviour.

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