

Dandelion Community's values

Dandelion Community is an intentional cohousing community for home-educating families and people who desire a conscious lifestyle. Our intention is to live a fulfilling life in harmony with nature and each other and to create a support network for ourselves and the wider community.

We intend to...

...connect with the natural world

We wish to live in a beautiful semi-rural site surrounded by wild spaces, woodland, water sources and the healing powers of nature. We also plan to:

- grow our own food following permaculture principles
- keep chickens, sheep or goats (not to eat) - perhaps rescued farm animals
- deepen our awareness of our environmental impact
- rewild spaces

...connect with the earth

We are conscious of our connection to all life, and the need to protect natural resources and recognise (and act on) the seriousness of the climate crisis. We have decided to:

- share cars, living space and other resources within the community
- use and generate renewable energy
- reuse, recycle and repurpose as much as we can
- create low impact buildings
- share a vegan/vegetarian communal kitchen (in their own private spaces all members free to make their own food choices)
- showcase sustainable living to others

...connect with children

Every child is a valuable member of our community and is treated with respect and given freedom to live, learn and create the way she/he chooses to. We support this choice by:

- creating a parenting support network and sharing childcare
- recognising that every member of the community is a role model and every daily activity can inspire learning
- encouraging self-directed learning and learning through experience
- sharing home-education resources
- becoming a home ed hub for the wider community
- organising parenting and educational workshops

- including children in decision-making

...connect with each other

We believe that a community is a living evolving system. We each have a responsibility to contribute our unique gifts so harmony is created for everybody. We are committed to:

- work on shared projects (such as building things, growing food, learning together)
- eat together at least once a week as a community (smaller groups may choose to share meals more often too)
- organise communal events and activities like yoga, dancing, singing, drama
- support each other emotionally and practically in daily life
- celebrate seasonal festivals together
- attend regular community meetings
- use consensus decision making
- share parenting experiences
- practise Non-Violent Communication

...be welcoming and inclusive

We want everybody within our community to feel they are equal, fully accepted the way they are and respected in the diversity of unique personal expressions and backgrounds. We welcome:

- people of different ages
- singles, couples or families
- multi-cultural families or individuals
- people with diverse parenting and home-educating styles who value the respectful approach to children and each other
- people with or without capital (both benefiting from mutual home ownership)

...connect with wider society

We believe that by living our intention of creating a harmonious community environment, we can role model a different way of life and become an inspiration for the wider community. Our aims include:

- offering home education activities for families
- hosting a variety of workshops and services for the wider community (for personal growth, healing, parenting or educational support)
- skill swaps with the wider local community
- supporting the local community by buying local, using local tradespeople, etc.

- offering accommodation for friends, other visitors or short-term volunteers, such as WWOOFers, to stay
- to provide sanctuary to people in need (a long-term aim)

We intend to be...

...always open to learning

committed to personal growth
sharing skills and knowledge
making space for every member's creativity
learning to live cooperatively

...honest with ourselves and each other

responsible
communicating our needs clearly and openly
humble enough to acknowledge our own mistakes
aware of our conditioning

...compassionate, kind

cultivating listening skills
respectful at all times
supportive of one another
fully present as much as we can