



## UK Chinese Women Connect Association (UKCWC) Membership Guidance and Principles

### About this document

This document is a guideline for UKCWC members. It was created by the UKCWC committee and is reviewed quarterly. The copyright is owned by the UKCWC committee.

### About UKCWC

UKCWC is a charitable organisation based in the UK and is currently undergoing the charity registration process. It was founded in Cambridge, UK, and is aimed at all Chinese women who live in the UK. UKCWC has three main purposes:

- *Connect:* As immigrants, we face a lot of difficulties and challenges when it comes to living and working in the UK, such as language barriers, cultural differences and gender gaps. UKCWC is here to provide a social and support network for all Chinese women who are keen to work on their self-development, want to offer their support to others and are eager to better integrate into local life in the UK.
- *Empower:* We want to empower our members to be the best versions of themselves. Our association organises many different types of events, including:
  - training sessions for members who wish to improve their English skills, expand their knowledge on English laws and the social rules of life in the UK and learn how to manage their physical and mental health.
  - regular showcases of our members' exceptional talents and achievements.
  - activity sessions for members to share their experiences and to inspire and be inspired by other members, such as cooking, art, reading, working, parenting and even business start-ups.

We believe that everybody has the potential to achieve success, and UKCWC aims to be the supportive and motivating body that helps our members to shine in this world.

- *Impact:* We want to have a positive impact on our members, their families and society as a whole. We want to see more Chinese women who live in the UK become happier, more capable and courageous enough to pursue their wildest dreams while bringing happiness to the people around them. We also organise charity events and collaborate with other local and worldwide charity organisations to contribute to building a better world. Charity sectors we work with include women and children aid, environmental protection and wild animal protection.

The main activities that UKCWC conducts are training sessions, presentations, interviews, media publications and online and offline social networking. UKCWC runs a WeChat public account, a website, a Twitter account and a Facebook account.

The UKCWC association is run by the UKCWC committee, which is comprised of a chairwoman, two vice-chairwomen and working groups that oversee all the association's endeavours. The committee is re-elected every two years. The chairwomen are elected by the committee members, and the committee members are either nominated by the members or self-nominated. UKCWC currently has two membership categories: standard members and associate members. Both enjoy the same benefits provided by UKCWC and are required to follow the same membership principles specified below.

#### **Members can enjoy the following benefits:**

- A thriving social network and resources.
- Access to excellent training and activities organised by UKCWC.
- The right to provide feedback on the association.

#### **Requirements for being a member of UKCWC:**

- **Standard members:** 18 years old or above, categorised as ethnically Chinese and are/were/will be living in the UK.
- **Associate members:** Women who are based in the UK but are not ethnically Chinese can become associate members of UKCWC if they meet the following criteria:
  - Support UKCWC's mission, aims and membership principles.
  - Speak Chinese or are interested in Chinese culture.
  - Have Chinese family ties (e.g. through adoption, marriage).
  - Have experience living, studying or working in China.
- New members can be recommended by existing members, or they can apply online by filling out a form. The committee will then approve or reject application requests.
- Members need to register using their real names and contact details.
- Members are required to understand and accept the membership principles.
- If a member violates the UKCWC membership principles, the committee has the right to cancel their membership.
- There is no mandatory membership fee required, and UKCWC accepts donations from members and non-members (Please contact the committee at [office@ukcwc.org](mailto:office@ukcwc.org)).

#### **Members of UKCWC will:**

- Respect themselves and other members.
- Learn from and care for other members.
- Positively and constructively engage with other members.
- Commit to the association's goal to learn from and help others.

- Commit to transparency, accountability and appropriate governance when conducting association activities.
- Respect other members' privacy and not spread rumours about other people nor engage in offensive debate about their politics or religion. \*Data and photos on the association's social platform are not allowed to be reused without the committee's approval.
- Follow local laws and guidance and not participate in corruption or damage of UKCWC's reputation.

**Termination of membership:**

Membership of UKCWC will be terminated if any of the following conditions occur:

- a) The member sends a notice of resignation to the UKCWC committee.
- b) The UKCWC committee decides that it is in the best interest of the organisation that the member in question should have their membership terminated, such as when the member dies or seriously violates the membership principles.

Before UKCWC committee decides to terminate a membership, the UKCWC committee must:

- a) Host a duly constituted committee meeting to discuss the case and make a decision about whether or not the membership should be terminated.
- b) Consider any appeals made by the member as to why they should not have their membership terminated.
- c) Inform the member and any related members as to the reasons for their proposed membership termination.
- d) Give the member at least five clear days' notice in which to make an appeal to the committee as to why she should not have her membership terminated.
- e) Allow the member, or the member's representative, to make those appeals in person at that meeting, if the member so chooses.

**UKCWC Committee**

**09/2020**