



**POTTERS
FIELDS PARK**



**ST JOHN'S
CHURCHYARD**

Policy on religious and political activities

Potters Fields Park is managed independently by Potters Fields Management Trust (PFPM/Trust), a not-for-profit organisation, under the terms of a lease with the freeholder of the land, Southwark Council. The Park is designated as Metropolitan Open Land, open to the public for the purposes of leisure and recreation. It is not 'public land' therefore events can only take place with the prior consent of the Trust, and subject to terms and conditions of hire.

The lease does not permit the hire or use of the park for any event with a religious or political purpose. The following activities are prohibited, irrespective of faith, cause, belief or affiliation:

a) Religious activities, including, but not limited to:

- collective acts of worship or other religious observances, either in their own right or as part of an event or other activity. This includes spoken or sung prayers, blessings, services or other gatherings that are primarily religious in focus
- preaching or other attempts to engage park visitors in religious activities
- the sale or distribution of religious books, newspapers, leaflets or other literature
- the installation or display of any structure, plaque or sign with religious significance.

b) Political activities, including, but not limited to:

- protests, demonstrations, speeches, marches and rallies supporting or opposing any cause or campaign
- political campaigning by or in support of any political party or group – local, national or international
- vigils and memorial* events, whether religious or not
- the sale or distribution of any political literature, including books, leaflets or newspapers.
- the installation or display of any placard, banner, sign or flag of political significance

*A separate Memorials Policy can be found [here](#).

Southwark Council byelaws, which regulate other activities in the borough's parks, also apply. These can be found [here](#). Any unauthorised event, including all the above, will be stopped and participants asked to disperse, with the relevant authorities contacted if necessary.

Potters Fields Park Management Trust
November 2023