

Request Reference: 3336

FOI Request dated 07/02/2025 –

- *How many students at your university have died by suicide in each of the following years: 2022, 2023, and 2024?*
- *Does your university have, or is in the process of developing, a UUK/Papyrus 'Suicide Safer Universities' [suicide prevention, intervention, postvention] strategy? Guidance can be found here: [https://www.papyrus-uk.org/suicide-safer-universities/#:~:text=Universities%20UK%20\(UUK\)%20and%20PAPYRUS,in%20the%20last%20academic%20year](https://www.papyrus-uk.org/suicide-safer-universities/#:~:text=Universities%20UK%20(UUK)%20and%20PAPYRUS,in%20the%20last%20academic%20year).*
- *If not, what alternative suicide prevention strategies does your university provide?*
- *Does your university have an 'opt-in scheme' or 'consent at registration' which gains consent at annual registration for the university to contact a 'safe and nominated' parent, guardian, or friend in non-emergency situations but where staff have serious concern over the wellbeing of the enrolled student? More information can be found here: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/contacting-people/parent/>.*

Response

- We do not hold this information as it is only a coroner who can confirm a suicide.
- We have a suicide Safer policy that adheres to UUK and Papyrus guidance and is fully evidence based.
- We don't have an opt-in scheme. All concerns for a student's wellbeing are passed to our Mental Health and Wellbeing Team, which consists of fully trained and qualified mental health social workers and nurses. The team continually assess when to inform a student's emergency contact of concerns, considering data protection and confidentiality guidelines. Students are encouraged and supported to inform family, guardians, and friends of difficulties they are experiencing. We find this approach a much more robust way of supporting our students, as specific consent is only fully relevant at the time of it being given, as a lot can change in a year regarding relationships with families, guardians, and friends.