

Code of Student Conduct

February 2026

This code sets out expected standards of behaviour for all students on and off campus. It outlines responsibilities, unacceptable conduct and how misconduct is categorised. It links to the Student Disciplinary Regulations, which define the processes and potential penalties for breaches.

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Code of Student Conduct

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This code sets out the standards and behaviours all students are expected to exhibit whilst studying at the University of Hull, to support the University in its commitment to advancing knowledge and education for the benefit of individuals and the wider society.
- 1.2 In accepting an offer to study at the University of Hull, students agree to be bound by the University's terms and conditions, including all regulations, policies, codes (including this code) and rules.

2 Scope

- 2.1 The Code of Student Conduct applies to all students registered at the University of Hull. This includes students whose studies are suspended, and students who have completed their studies but are yet to graduate from the University.
- 2.2 This Code applies in relation to students' conduct on or off campus and on-line conduct. The code applies where a student is engaged with activities, services or facilities as a student of the University or where conduct may adversely affect another member of the University Community, the University's interests or bring the University into disrepute and/or where conduct may pose a safeguarding concern to any other member of the University Community.
- 2.3 Campus refers to the University of Hull campus in Hull, the campus/study centre in London, and any relevant learning spaces that may be determined by the university.

3 Purpose

- 3.1 The purpose of the Code is to establish expectations for Student behaviour and to foster a respectful, inclusive, and safe learning environment for everyone.
- 3.2 The code defines acceptable behaviour by clarifying what is considered acceptable conduct and details the potential penalties, as imposed via the Student Disciplinary Regulations, for violating the code.

4 Students' responsibilities

- 4.1 In accepting an offer to study at the University of Hull, students become an ambassador of the University and are expected to behave in a manner which reflects the University's values and culture. The following list is indicative (but not exhaustive) of the type of behaviours expected from University of Hull students:
 - a. respecting and celebrating diversity
 - b. acting with honesty and integrity
 - c. respecting all others, and being considerate and courteous
 - d. being punctual for classes, seminars and any other scheduled sessions or appointments within the university
 - e. notifying a member of staff or other relevant person if you are unable to attend an appointment
 - f. respecting the campus and general environment



- g. respect for university and personal property
 - h. recycling and disposing of litter properly
 - i. demonstrating a respect for health and safety
 - j. engaging positively with the local community
 - k. acting in accordance with all the University's regulations, policies, procedures, codes of practice and guidance
- 4.2 Members of the University are responsible for the conduct of their guests whilst on university premises. No person who has been excluded from the University may be invited onto university premises as a guest.
- 4.3 Any student who knowingly helps, promotes or encourages any form of Misconduct by another individual may be deemed complicit in that behaviour and as such, in breach of this code.
- 4.4 Students and Staff are encouraged to report any breach of this Code to the University. The University will actively respond to and take seriously all reported breaches of the Code acting as deemed proportionate in accordance with the relevant University policy/procedure.
- 4.5 The list below is indicative (but not exhaustive) of the type of behaviour that would constitute Category A and Category B misconduct, and the likely sanctions associated with such behaviours. This is illustrative only and a full list of the sanctions which could be imposed by the University are set out in the University's Student Disciplinary Regulations. One or more sanctions may be issued for any given offence.
- 4.6 Behaviour does not have to be directed against a particular individual(s) for it to amount to harassment.
- 4.7 The Conduct and Complaints Team has the discretion to re-categorise an offence which might usually be deemed Category B to a Category A and vice versa dependent on any aggravating and/or mitigating factors which might apply.
- 4.8 The Code of Student Conduct aligns with the Higher Education Freedom of Speech Act 2023 and regulatory advice issued by the Office for Students. Nothing in this application of the code should restrict lawful free speech.
- 4.9 The Code of Student Conduct aligns with the University's Sexual Misconduct, Violence and Harassment Policy and Disclosure Procedure; the single comprehensive source of information which sets out policies and procedures on subject matters relating to incidents of harassment and sexual misconduct as per the Office for Students Condition E6: Harassment and sexual misconduct.
- 4.10 Multiple or repeated incidents of misconduct may be more serious than a single act of misconduct and previous findings may be considered when determining what sanction should be imposed
- 4.11 The Student Disciplinary Regulations contain the processes for dealing with cases of Category A and Category B misconduct, and penalty definitions.



5 Code of conduct

People	
Physical Misconduct	
Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour	Example of Penalties
Category A: • Punching • Kicking • Slapping • Pulling hair • Restraining someone inappropriately • Biting • Spitting • Throwing items at or pouring items over another person	• Expulsion • Suspension/Exclusion • Final Written Warning • Restorative Communication • Loss of privileges • Requirement to attend a specific course or programme
Category B: Touching someone without consent including: • Pushing • Shoving • Grabbing • Pulling • Holding	• First Written Warning • Letter of Apology • Loss of privileges • A Conduct Order • No Contact Arrangement
Sexual Misconduct	
Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour	Example of Penalties
Category A: • Sexual intercourse or engaging in a sexual act without consent • Attempting to engage in sexual intercourse or sexual act without consent • Sexually inappropriate conduct towards a minor • Downloading, making and/or sharing indecent images of minors • Taking and/or sharing private sexual materials of another person without consent • Inappropriately showing sexual organs to another person	• Expulsion • Suspension/Exclusion • Final Written Warning • Restorative Communication • Loss of privileges • Requirement to attend a specific course or programme



• Retaliation/Victimisation of an individual in response to a report of Sexual Misconduct • Forcibly touching inappropriately through clothes without consent • Forcibly kissing without consent	
Category B: • Repeatedly following another person without good reason • Making unwanted remarks of a sexual nature • Touching inappropriately through clothes without consent • Kissing without consent	• First Written Warning • Letter of Apology • • Loss of privileges • A Conduct Order • No Contact Arrangement
Abusive Behaviour	
Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour	Example of Penalties
Category A: • Coercive behaviour, which constitutes a continuing act, or a pattern of acts, of assault, threats, or which has the purpose or effect of intimidation or humiliation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish or frighten • Organisation or participation in 'initiation' ceremonies or similar events • Any behaviour which could constitute discrimination or harassment on the grounds of a protected characteristic (sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, disability, pregnancy, or age), including racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic or disablist behaviour • Threats to hurt another person • Acting in an intimidating and hostile manner • The distribution or production of inappropriate literature	• Expulsion • Suspension/Exclusion • Final Written Warning • Restorative Communication • Loss of privileges • Requirement to attend a specific course or programme • A Conduct Order • No Contact Arrangement
Category B: • Use of inappropriate language	• First Written Warning



• Repeatedly contacting another person (by phone, email, text or on social networking sites) against the wishes of the other person • Microaggression(s), a statement, action or incident regarded as an instance of indirect, subtle or unintentional discrimination against a member of the University Community with a protected characteristic (outlined above) • Excessive noise, nuisance or anti-social behaviour, which significantly and adversely affects students or staff over a prolonged period of time.	• Letter of Apology • Loss of privileges • A Conduct Order • No Contact Arrangement
Property	
Damage to Property	
Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour	Example of Penalties
Category A: • Causing significant damage to/defacing property belonging to or under the control of the University, or any of its placement providers, or the property of any student, member of staff or visitor	• Expulsion • Suspension/Exclusion • Final Written Warning • Restorative Communication • Loss of privileges • Requirement to attend a specific course or programme • Requirement to pay for damage
Category B: • Causing minor damage to property belonging to or under the control of the University, or any of its placement providers, or the property of any student, member of staff or visitor	• First Written Warning • Letter of Apology • Loss of privileges • Requirement to pay for damage • A Conduct Order
Unauthorised Taking or Use of Property	
Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour	Example of Penalties
Category A: • Unauthorised entry onto or unauthorized use of University premises • Failure to leave any premises of the University or the Hull University Students'	• Expulsion • Suspension/Exclusion • Final Written Warning • Restorative Communication



Union (HUSU) when reasonably required to do so • Taking property belonging to another without permission • Unauthorised procurement of goods or services in the name of the University or its systems • Misappropriation of any funds or assets of the University, the HUSU or, any member of the University	• Loss of privileges • Requirement to attend a specific course or programme • Requirement to pay for any losses
Category B: • Misuse and/or unauthorised use of University Property (for example computers and laboratory equipment)	• First Written Warning • Letter of Apology • Loss of privileges • A Conduct Order • Requirement to pay for any losses
Causing a Health or Safety Concern	
Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour	Example of Penalties
Category A: • Act/Omission that did cause or could have caused serious harm on University Premises and/or during University activities and/or to the University Community (for example, possessing/supplying controlled drugs, setting off fireworks)	• Expulsion • Suspension/Exclusion • Final Written Warning • Restorative Communication • Loss of privileges • Requirement to attend a specific course or programme • Requirement to pay for losses or damage
Category B: • Act/Omission that did cause or could have caused, a health and safety concern on University Premises and/or during University activities and/or to the University Community (for example, smoking in non-designated areas)	• First Written Warning • Restorative Communication • Loss of privileges • A Conduct Order • Requirement to pay for losses or damage
University	
Reputational Damage	
Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour	Example of Penalties



Category A: • Behaviour (excluding law speech) by which has caused serious damage or could have caused serious damage to the reputation of the University	• Expulsion • Suspension/Exclusion • Final Written Warning • Restorative Communication • Loss of privileges • Requirement to attend a specific course or programme
Category B: • Behaviour which has damaged or could have damaged the reputation of the University • Excessive noise, nuisance or anti-social behaviour over a prolonged period of time on the University Premises, or which significantly and adversely affects the local community to the extent that it brings the institution into disrepute	• First Written Warning • Letter of Apology • Loss of privileges • A Conduct Order
Operational Obstruction	
Examples of Unacceptable Behaviour	Example of Penalties
Category A: • Behaviour which constitutes a failure to comply with a previously imposed precautionary measure, penalty or reasonable instruction under these Regulations or any other University Regulation, code, rule or policy (including conduct orders and no contact arrangements) • Failure to abide by the rules, policies, procedures and requirements of associated practice placements • Failure to disclose a criminal investigation whilst as an applicant of the University or whilst registered as a student • Criminal or other activities that have a bearing on a student's participation in the University or provide a risk to other students, staff or other users of the University's services • Bribery or attempted bribery	• Expulsion • Suspension/Exclusion • Final Written Warning • A Conduct Order • Restorative Communication • Loss of privileges • Requirement to attend a specific course or programme



• Conduct which obstructs or attempts to obstruct the free movement and/or freedom of speech of staff (taking account of the University's Freedom of Speech Policy), students or visitors from any University building or premises • Communication of information confidential to the University or to its members to anyone outside the University. • Communication/Sharing of information relating to a Formal Investigation under these Regulations when directed not to do so and/or without seeking authority.	
Category B: • Improper interference with the activities of the University (including academic, administrative, sporting and social) on University premises or elsewhere • Improper interference with the functions, duties or activities of any student or employee of the University or any authorised visitor to the University • Misuse of student ID card including to falsify attendance records for yourself or other students • Failure to produce appropriate identification within a reasonable period of time on reasonable request from any member of staff, including placement providers' staff • Failure to comply with any reasonable request or instructions from any member of staff including failing to engage in Informal Resolution Actions that involve making defamatory statements, vexatious communication and/or making manifestly unreasonable requests to University staff members	• First Written Warning • Letter of Apology • Loss of privileges • A Conduct Order