

The Student Code of Conduct

Responsible, Reasonable and Respectful Conduct

The University recognises that it is a community with a significant part to play in the wider communities in which it is located and that its obligations to its own staff and students extend to these wider communities. The University therefore believes that it should both promote a high level of responsibility within the student body and further the development of good relationships between the University and these wider communities and beyond. In doing so the University reminds students that in any situation, in any part of the University or when involved in any activities associated with the University including those undertaken away from University premises, students must:

- ❖ behave responsibly and with consideration, courtesy and respect towards others;
- ❖ not act in a way that could endanger, or cause harm or any form of distress to any other person;
- ❖ not engage in behaviour which causes offence or distress because of the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation;
- ❖ use the University's facilities or services with care;
- ❖ act within the law and behave in accordance with the University's rules and regulations including, but not limited to, those relating to:
 - Academic Regulations
 - Health and Safety
 - Equal Opportunities
 - Use of University facilities
 - Rules relating to residential living
 - Requirements of Professional, Regulatory or Statutory Bodies;
- ❖ not interfere with the normal working of the University or any of its facilities or services
- ❖ not bring the University into disrepute by any of their actions.

Under no circumstances will the University tolerate any behaviour that amounts to an offence against a person including, but not limited to, assault, sexual assault or sexual violence, domestic violence or discrimination or harassment of any kind, whether verbal or physical and in any form or medium, including in any online space or context; such misconduct will be dealt with severely.

Individual students are responsible for ensuring that they are aware of any such regulations or standards and that they comply with them. Copies of these regulations are available from the University's intranet.

Examples of behaviour that will be regarded as misconduct and the possible sanctions which are available are published in the Guidance Notes.

Illustrative Examples of Misconduct

The defining and grading of the misconduct in the procedures is intended to give an indication as to the severity of the measure to be imposed. Misconduct graded solely as serious misconduct and/or any misconduct involving the (mis)use of alcohol and/or any other substances or against a person should normally be considered under the Formal Phase. Moreover, any person who engages in any form of violence, assault, misconduct or sexual misconduct against another person or who is found guilty of a criminal offence will be liable to the most severe measure.

Any misconduct graded as general misconduct may be considered at the Informal Phase and progressed to the Formal Phase if or as necessary.

The examples listed below are illustrative only and are neither comprehensive nor exhaustive. Examples may be added or amended as necessary by the Vice-Chancellor:

<i>Misconduct against People</i>	Serious	General
Under this procedure 'Misconduct against People' should normally be regarded as Serious misconduct in all circumstances		
i. Acts of disturbance that threaten the rights and privacy of any member of the University, whilst on University premises or engaged in University activity, or resident in University owned or managed accommodation.	✓	✓
ii. Serious abusive behaviour which may be regarded as aggravated which includes acts that may be regarded as sexual, violent, disorderly, threatening, intimidating or offensive; including the use of such language (whether expressed orally or in writing, including electronically).	✓	
iii. Abusive behaviour which includes acts that may be regarded as disorderly, threatening, intimidating or offensive; including the use of such language (whether expressed orally or in writing, including electronically).		✓
iv. Any act of discrimination, or any bullying, harassment, intolerance or victimisation.	✓	
v. The sending, posting or display by any means and in any form or medium of sexual, intimate, harmful, cruel or offensive text or images.	✓	
vi. Sexual misconduct including engaging or attempting to engage in an intimate or sexual act, touching or other offence without consent, the inappropriate showing of sexual organs to another person and	✓	



the making of unwanted remarks of a sexual nature (whether expressed orally or in writing, including electronically).		
vii. Failure to respect the rights of others including those relating to: freedom of speech and expression, freedom of belief, thought, conscience and religion, confidentiality and privacy.	✓	✓
viii. Jeopardising the health and safety of oneself or of any other person.	✓	
ix. Conduct that may incite, fund, promote or lead to acts of violent or non-violent extremism.	✓	
x. Possession of an offensive weapon (including replica weapons) and /or ammunition on University premises or whilst engaged in any activity associated with the University.	✓	
xi. Possession or use of illegal substances or New Psychotic Substances whilst on University premises or whilst engaged in any activity associated with the University.	✓	✓
xii. Inclusion on one or more of the barred lists maintained under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 or any act that would lead to investigation or deregistration by an appropriate professional body.	✓	
xiii. Conduct which constitutes a criminal offence.	✓	✓
<i>Misconduct against Property</i>	Serious	General
xiv. Failure to comply with any aspect of the Health and Safety Procedures, rules or duties of the University or of any other organisation to which a student may be subject.	✓	✓
xv. Misuse or unauthorised use of University premises or items of property, including computer misuse and the communications network.	✓	
xvi. Damage to, or defacement of, University property or the property of other members of the University community caused intentionally or recklessly, and misappropriation of such property.	✓	✓
xvii. Unauthorised taking or use of property belonging to either the University or another person without permission.	✓	✓



xviii. Unauthorised entry into, or unauthorised use of University premises and property or the premises and property of other members of the University community.	✓	✓
xix. Unauthorised publication or transmission to any third party of a University activity and/or the unauthorised use of any form of recording equipment during a University activity.	✓	✓
<i>Misconduct against the University</i>	Serious	General
xx. Conduct which brings the University into disrepute.	✓	✓
xxi. Conduct which disrupts, or improperly interferes with, the academic, administrative, sporting, social, or other activities of the University, whether on University premises or elsewhere.	✓	✓
xxii. Conduct which obstructs, or improperly interferes with, the functions, duties or activities of any student, member of staff or other employee of the University, or any authorised visitor to the University, whether on University premises or elsewhere.	✓	✓
xxiii. Failure to uphold or pursue the standards expected of any relevant professional or vocational bodies, which awards qualifications to students in relation to the care, welfare or education of the public.	✓	✓
xxiv. Conduct during assessment and examination which does not constitute Unacceptable Academic Practice or Academic Misconduct, for which separate rules and procedures apply, and may constitute failure to maintain professional suitability.	✓	✓
xxv. Dishonesty or the supply of false or misleading information in relation to the University or its staff or students in connection with the holding of any office in the University, or in relation to being a student at the University, or in circumstances which the University reasonably considers affect professional suitability.	✓	
xxvi. The submission to the University of false data, documents or documents containing false information/data and/or elements, such as signatures, including for the purposes of admission, recording attendance (whether manually or electronically or using Chester-App 'Check-in'), work, assignments, timesheets or other documents including evidence to explain absence, claims for mitigating circumstances or academic appeal etc.	✓	



xxvii. The fraudulent production of, and/or the submission to a third party of, any document purporting to be issued by the University containing false or fraudulent information and/or elements; including, but not limited to, grades, marks, confirmation of student status, confirmation of attendance, or signature or any associated matter.	✓	
xxviii. Breach of the provisions of any rules or regulations of the University or of any other organisation to which a student may be subject.	✓	✓
xxix. Failure to disclose your name and other relevant details to an officer or employee of the University of Chester, in circumstances when it is reasonable to require that such Information be given.	✓	✓
xxx. Failure to comply with a previously-imposed penalty or implemented action under these rules and procedures.	✓	
xxxi. Knowingly encouraging, permitting or assisting any individual to engage in any of the above.	✓	✓
xxxii. Any other behaviour which may reasonably regarded as constituting misconduct or unprofessional conduct.	✓	✓

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