

Safeguarding Students: Guidance for all staff

1. What is Safeguarding?

For the purpose of this guidance, safeguarding is defined as protecting and promoting the health and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults, enabling them to live free from abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Our duty to safeguard our students extends to preventing them from being groomed or drawn into extremism. It is important to note that 'extremism' covers a broad spectrum of beliefs which include far-left, far-right, environmental, religious etc.

Salford University is committed to ensuring free speech, including the right to express controversial opinions. However, this becomes a safeguarding concern when someone is at risk of committing violence or other criminal activity.

We all play a vital role in safeguarding our students, and as such, it is important you are aware what to do in the interest of a disclosure.

2. Designated Safeguarding Officers

Your Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSOs) are your first point of contact for all concerns about a child, young person or vulnerable adult. If you are concerned about a student, or a fellow staff member, your DSO will be able to advise whether a referral is necessary and help guide you through the process.

3. Hate Crime Reporting

AskUs and USSU are both third party hate crime reporting centres. They can offer support to any victims of hate (staff and students) and help them to report if necessary. You can also report a hate crime on behalf of another.

4. Recognising Safeguarding Concerns and Reporting

Recognising Emergency Situations

Deciding whether a situation is an emergency is a matter of individual judgment. If you have reasonable grounds to believe that someone is either at risk to themselves, or others, or they are in immediate danger, you should take the following steps:

- Contact the **Emergency Services** (ambulance or police as necessary) on 999
- Then contact **Security** on 55333 to notify them of the situation
- Notify the **Principal Safeguarding Officer**, or **Safeguarding Officer** as soon as possible

As staff you have a duty to **NOTICE, CHECK** and **SHARE**

✓ NOTICE	<i>You may notice that a student or another staff member's behaviour gives you cause for concern...</i>
You might consider whether someone is being harmed or abused because: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You see or hear extreme changes in behaviour;• You may see or hear expressions of suicidal intent;• Someone discloses to you that there could be abuse;• You see or hear something that could constitute abuse;	

- Someone tells you something is happening or happened to them that could constitute abuse.

Other factors which may be a cause for concern include:

- Witness bullying, targeted harassment or a hate crime;
- Someone promoting extremist views in person or on social media;
- Possession or accessing illegal material (e.g. from proscribed organisations, child pornography etc.)

It is worth noting that 'extremism' covers a broad spectrum of beliefs, which may include far-left, far-right, environmental, pro-life, Daesh, anti-vivisection etc. Not all 'extreme' views are illegal, however, and it is only concerning when someone is at risk of committing violence or illegal activity.

For students, there may be specific concerns that indicate things 'aren't right'. These include (but are not limited to):

- Not engaging with academic work;
- Not responding to communications;
- Not paying rent, fines or fees;
- Disciplinary or academic misconduct proceedings;
- Not engaging with other students/ staff or local community.

✓ CHECK	<i>Question and share your concerns with your Designated Safeguarding Officer...</i>
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These changes could be linked to other underlying issues. Your DSO will help you decide whether an external referral is necessary.

✓ SHARE	<i>Report any genuinely held concerns as soon as possible</i>
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YOU SHOULD NEVER INVESTIGATE THE ISSUE YOURSELF

If you have genuine concerns about an individual, you should pass this information on to your Designated Safeguarding Officer. They will help you to make a referral if necessary.

Always notify the Principal Safeguarding Officer, and Safeguarding Officer as soon as possible.

Make sure you complete the Safeguarding Reporting Proforma after each disclosure and notify the relevant Head of School as appropriate.

For Safeguarding Concerns

The Bridge Partnership (Age of person you are concerned about: 0-25)

Telephone: 0161 603 4500 (from 8.30am to 4.30pm Mon-Fri). If you need to speak to someone outside these hours, please call the Emergency Duty Team on 0161 794 8888.

Salford Social Services (Age of person you are concerned about: 25+)

Telephone: 0161 631 4777 (from 8.30am-4.30pm Mon-Fri) Email: social.services@salford.gov.uk. If you need to speak to someone outside these hours, please call the Emergency Duty Team on 0161 794 8888

For Prevent Concerns

Referrals to **Salford Channel** should be made via the Prevent Task Group: Contact Andrew Hartley, Principle Safeguarding Officer a.hartley2@salford.ac.uk

For Further Wellbeing Concerns

askUs Student Support services can provide information or direct support for students on a wide range of issues, including money, accommodation, wellbeing and counselling, immigration and visas, and disability. Telephone: 0161 295 0023 (Term time: 8.00am-8.00pm Mon-Thurs, 8.00am-5.00pm Friday, Vacation time: 8.00am-6.00pm Mon-Thurs, 8.00am-5.00pm Friday) Email: askus@salford.ac.uk

CRISIS SUPPORT

- **NHS 111**
- **Papyrus** (support for people feeling suicidal, available 10am – 10pm weekdays, 2pm – 10pm weekends, 2pm – 5pm bank holidays): 0800 0684141, text 07786 209697 or email pat@papyrus-uk.org;
- **Samaritans** (a free service to speak to someone about how you're feeling, available 24 hours a day): 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org;
- **Sanctuary** (offers a safe place to go at night, open from 8pm – 6am): 0300 003 7029;
- **CALM** (support for men, available 5pm – midnight daily): 0800 58 58 58 or chat online at www.thecalmzone.net/help/webchat;
- **University Security** emergency number: 0161 295 3333;

Designated Safeguarding lead

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