



SECRETARIAT

ACADEMIC POLICY

NAME OF ACADEMIC POLICY:	Policy for Students Under the Age of 18
PURPOSE OF POLICY AND WHOM IT APPLIES TO:	The policy outlines the University's approach to students under the age of eighteen.
RESPONSIBLE BOARD/ COMMITTEE WITH ROUTE OF APPROVAL:	Education & Student Life Committee
LEAD STAFF MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS UPDATE:	Director of Student Affairs
PERSONS CONSULTED IN DEVELOPING POLICY:	Discussed and approved by members of the Education & Student Life Committee on 11 March 2015
POLICY FINALLY APPROVED BY:	Academic Board on 16 June 2015
DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	June 2015
DETAIL OF DISSEMINATION:	The new Policy was circulated in July 2015 and is available on the Secretariat's portal.
PROPOSED DATE OF REVIEW	To be confirmed
SECRETARIAT OFFICER – MAIN CONTACT:	Officer to Education & Student Life Committee
DATE:	July 2015



Policy for Students under the Age of 18

Introduction

The University welcomes a diverse student population. Occasionally this means that students under the age of 18 are admitted; however, the University is primarily an adult environment and treats all students as independent individuals, regardless of their age.

Support

The usual personal and academic support arrangements are available to students under the age of 18.

Parental/Guardian Responsibility

- The University will not act in loco parentis.
- The University is unable to fulfil the duty of care arrangements for International students as set out under section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009.
- Where a person must be aged 18 or over to enter into a contract, the University requires a student's parents/guardian to honour all obligations entered into by the student while under the age of 18.
- Up-to-date emergency contact details of parents/guardian must be provided to the University by the student.
- The University has a contractual arrangement with a student rather than their parents, accordingly the University will correspond in all matters directly with students not parents/guardian.

Accommodation

Residential accommodation offered by the University and its partners is generally intended for adult use and special arrangements cannot be made for students under the age of 18. The University and its partners do not offer any warden controlled, supported or monitored accommodation.

Student Life

- It is illegal for alcohol to be bought or sold by individuals under the age of 18. The University will take reasonable steps to ensure the law is upheld within its own licensed premises but cannot undertake to supervise individual students.
- The University is not able to take any additional responsibility for a student under the age of 18 in relation to optional or compulsory programme activities such as excursions and field trips.

Child Protection

As a matter of law in England, a person under the age of 18 is a child. The University will report any suspicions or allegations of abuse/harm of children to the appropriate Social Services officer and/or the Police. Any such suspicions or allegations will be reported to the Director of Student Affairs who will contact the appropriate authorities.

Under the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 2000, it is a criminal offence for any person in a position of trust (which includes members of University staff) to engage in sexual activity with someone who is under 18 years.