

### COMMUNITY GUIDELINES ON PROTEST

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In line with our Values, Falmouth University respects the right to protest. We champion free speech and promote a culture of debate.

However, the right to lawful protest and free expression are not without constraints and must be balanced with the rights of all members of our community to go about their learning and business safely, unimpeded and free from intimidation, discrimination or harassment

This guidance is to help ensure protestors can legally exercise their rights, while our campus community can continue to feel safe on campus.

These guidelines only cover our campus community, protest activity led by external parties will not be allowed on campus

#### **Protests on campus: Our Approach and Expectations**

The following guidance is intended to ensure that on-campus protests can be conducted safely for all members of the University community, avoiding risk of fear or intimidation, to reduce the likelihood of protesters breaching University regulations and becoming subject to disciplinary action.

When arranging and taking part in a protest it **is your responsibility to:**

- **Give notice of the protest** by emailing [safetyandsupport@fxplus.ac.uk](mailto:safetyandsupport@fxplus.ac.uk) least 48 hours before you intend to hold a protest.
- **Seek in advance and follow any safety, security, location, and other advice given to you** by the University staff or their representatives. Protests will take place outside university buildings and not inside, unless explicitly agreed with the University.
- **Communicate information about the protest to the participants**, including any relevant University guidance and risk assessments.
- **When due process is followed** to notify the University of a protest, a **Nominated Point of Contact (NPC) from the University or FXPlus will support** in risk assessment of the protest and often will attend to support the protest.
- Our [posters and leaflets policy can be found online](#). **Any materials (posters, leaflets) from third parties must be approved in advance**. Posters placed in university frames or on university property will be removed.
- Be aware of how protests can make particular student groups, e.g. disabled students, feel vulnerable despite that not being the intention – please take your impact into consideration.
- Understand that when taking part in a public protest, **you may have your photograph taken by other participants, or members of the community**. University campuses are private land and there is **no public right to record on our campuses**. Where unauthorised individuals may be filming, they will be asked to stop. Please note that unless specific consent is given, filming and disseminating videos of university staff is unacceptable.

You should be aware that **the NPC may stop a protest if:**

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- Participants continue to break agreed conditions, after being reminded of these.
- Seek to disrupt other events taking place on university premises by preventing speakers from talking, people from attending, or disrupting the event as such that it infringes on others' right to freedom of speech.
- Undertake any other activities that could be considered in breach of UK law.
- Lack of appropriate notice or risk assessment.

You should be aware that when conditions agreed or parameters set are breached and/or distress and harm is caused to students or colleagues, there may be disciplinary action taken. These will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

You can find a link to all Falmouth University's regulations, policies and procedures [here](#).

We understand that protests can be overwhelming for many who may not have engaged with these before. **If you need any support, our Wellbeing services remain available to you and if you witness or experience any inappropriate behaviours on campus, we encourage you to report these** through our [Falmouth and Exeter Speak Out reporting tool](#).