SUMS group



Office for Students: Preventing and Addressing Harassment and Sexual Misconduct

Provider survey questions

What is the name of your university, college or other provider of higher education?
Required

2. How influential has the Office for Students' statement of expectations been on the development and implementation of your organisation's approach to prevent and respond to harassment and sexual misconduct over the past two years (that is, in the period following the consultation in January 2020 and launch in April 2021?

* Required

Not at all influential
Slightly influential
Somewhat influential
Very influential
Extremely influential

2.a. If the statement of expectations has influenced your approach please tell us

inwhat ways, and if it has not done so please tell us why this is the case.

3. How important have the following factors been in how your organisation's approach to preventing and responding to harassment and sexual misconduct has developed over the past two years?

			R	Required			
	Not at all	Low	Neutral	Moderately	Extremely	Don't	N/A
	important	importance	neutral	important	important	know	IN/A
Combat							
Misconduct							
resources							
Lessons from							
effective practice							
among other							
providers							
External							
specialist							
organisations							
GuildHE's Anti-							
Racism							
Programme							
Incidents of							
harassment and							
sexual							
misconduct							
affecting your							
students							
Increased							
political and							
societal pressure							
to take forward							
action in this area							
Input from victim-							
survivors of							
harassment and							
sexual							
misconduct							
Internal student							

			R	Required			
	Not at all	Low	Neutral	Moderately	Extremely	Don't	N/A
	important	importance	neullai	important	important	know	
campaigns /							
activism							
Local place-							
based initiatives							
Office for							
Students Catalyst							
safeguarding							
project funding							
Office for							
Students							
statement of							
expectations							
Office of the							
Independent							
Adjudicator's							
Good Practice							
Framework							
Pledge to end							
use of Non-							
Disclosure							
Agreements							
(NDAs)							
ProtectEd's							
accreditation							
scheme							
Universities UK's							
Changing the							
Culture							
framework							
Universities UK's							
various other							
guidance on							
harassment and							
misconduct							
Other							

3.b. Please provide the reasons for your response.

4. Has the volume of reported incidents of harassment and sexual misconduct affectingstudents changed at your organisation over the past two academic years (since academic year 2019/20)?

			Required		
	Considerably decreased	Decreased	Stayed about the same	Increased	Considerably increased
Volume of reports of					
incidents relating to					
sexual misconduct					
affecting students					
(irrespective of whether					
these led to a formal					
complaint / disciplinary					
procedure)					
Volume of reports of other					
forms of harassment and					
incidents of hate, e.g.,					
incidents related to race,					
religion or belief, disability,					
sex /gender or sexual					
orientation (irrespective of					
whether these led to a					
formal complaint /					
disciplinary procedure)					

			Required		
	Considerably decreased	Decreased	Stayed about the same	Increased	Considerably increased
Volume of disciplinary					
procedures relating to					
incidents of sexual					
misconduct affecting					
students					
Volume of disciplinary					
procedures relating to					
incidents of other forms of					
harassment and incidents					
of hate (e.g., incidents					
related to race, religion or					
belief, disability, sex					
/gender or sexual					
orientation)?					

4.a. Please provide reasons why any changes in the volume of reports or disciplinary procedures may have taken place.

5. Who was accountable for leading on this area at your organisation (as opposed tothe day-to-day operational activity) two years ago (during academic year 2019/20)?* *Required*

Vice Chancellor, Principal or similar
Pro Vice Chancellor, Deputy Principal or similar
Chief Operating Officer or similar
Registrar or similar
Academic Registrar or similar
Director of Student Services or similar

	Head or Manager of Student Support Services or similar
	Don't know
	Other
5.a.	If you selected Other, please specify:

6. Who is accountable for leading on this area at your organisation (as opposed to the day-to-day operational activity) now (during the current academic year 2021/22)?

Required

Vice Chancellor, Principal or similar
Pro Vice Chancellor, Deputy Principal or similar
Chief Operating Officer or similar
Registrar or similar
Academic Registrar or similar
Director of Student Services or similar
Head or Manager of Student Support Services or similar
Don't know
Other

6.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

7. In what ways did your Governing Body / Board ensure that your organisation's approach to addressing harassment and sexual misconduct affecting students was adequate and effective two years ago (during academic year 2019/20)?

* Required

By seeking assurance from the executive that the right policies, processes and procedures are in place to effectively prevent and address harassment and sexual misconduct

By reviewing strategy on addressing harassment and sexual misconduct annually
By monitoring reported incidents, cases and outcomes of cases
By monitoring that risks in these areas are identified and managed
Don't know
Other

7.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

8. In what ways does your Governing Body / Board ensure that your organisation's approach to addressing harassment and sexual misconduct affecting students is adequate and effective now (during current academic year 2021/22)?

Required

By seeking assurance from the executive that the right policies, processes and procedures are in place to effectively prevent and address harassment and sexual misconduct
By reviewing strategy on addressing harassment and sexual misconduct annually
By monitoring reported incidents, cases and outcomes of cases
By monitoring that risks in these areas are identified and managed
Don't know
Other

8.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

8.b. Please use this space to provide any additional information about any of your responses in this section.

9. Which of the following activities has your organisation undertaken as part of your approach to addressing harassment and sexual misconduct affecting students? Please tick all which apply.

Created a committee of the governing body (or academic governance body) to provide oversight of this area
Set up an operational working group, interdisciplinary team or project
Developed an organisation-wide approach to address this agenda
Conducted awareness raising campaigns
Committed resources to support activities
Collaborated with students' unions or other student bodies and representatives
Developed a statement of behavioural expectations / requirements / code of conduct with possible sanctions if not followed
Recruited new or contracted specialist staff
Collected prevalence data (e.g. through campus climate surveys)
Collected data on reported incidents
Published data on reported incidents
Engaged with third sector and / or local specialist agencies to develop and evaluate approaches
Engaged with students from diverse background to develop and evaluate approaches
Engaged with reporting /responding students to develop and evaluate approaches
Engaged with other providers or local organisations to ensure a joined-up community approach
Conducted research to get a better understanding of where interventions should be targeted and what works
Engaged with local schools and colleges through outreach activities to support a joined-up approach
Engaged with victim-survivors to develop and evaluate approaches
Implemented a trauma -informed / victim-centred approach to tackling sexual misconduct and harassment
Established an approach for recognising and managing risk
Collected data on outcomes of cases

Published data on outcomes of cases
None of the above
Other

9.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

9.a.i. What effect if any has the statement of expectations had on your approach and activities designed to prevent and respond to harassment and sexual misconduct?

10. What staff and student training does your organisation provide to address harassment and sexual misconduct affecting students?

	Mandatory	Mandatory	Optional	Neither	N/A
	for all	for some			
Student consent training					
Bystander intervention					
training for students					
Staff awareness raising					
training about harassment					
and sexual misconduct					
Bystander intervention					
training for staff					
Staff training for handling					
disclosures of incidents of					
harassment and sexual					
misconduct					
Other					

10.a. If other, please specify:

10.a.i. Please provide further details about your organisation's student and staff training, including whether this has changed over the past two years.

11. Please state whether your organisation has begun implementing the following policies, processes and systems for reporting and disclosing incidents of harassment and misconduct.

	Required				
	Not yet	Partially	Fully	Don't	N/A
	started	implemented	implemented	know	
Clear information for students					
and staff on how to report,					
disclose or seek support or					
advice if they experience or					
witness an incident					
Ability and guidance for staff to					
signpost or refer students to					
other organisations where					
required and requested (e.g.					
the police, NHS and other local					
specialist services)					
Mechanism for students to					
make a report or disclosure of					
harassment or sexual					
misconduct in person					
Mechanism for students to					
make a report or disclosure of					
harassment or sexual					
misconduct via a reporting tool,					
app or website / online					
Mechanism for students to					
make an anonymised report of					
harassment or sexual					
misconduct					
Other					

11.a. If other, please specify:

12. Please state whether your organisation has begun implementing the following approaches for taking action in response to reports and disclosures of harassment and sexual misconduct.

	Required				
	Not yet	Partially	Fully	Don't	N/A
	started	implemented	implemented	know	
Implemented the Pinsent					
Mason guidance on handling					
situations where a student					
disciplinary offence may also					
constitute a criminal offence					
(2016)					
A clear and accessible student					
disciplinary policy					
An approach where staff can					
respond appropriately and					
consistently to disclosures					
Clearly communicated					
information for staff and					
students about the student					
disciplinary process					
An investigatory process that is					
fair, independent and free from					
any perceptions of bias					
Disciplinary hearings for					
considering student complaints					
and appeals					
Clear information available on					
how confidential information will					
be used and shared, and the					
protections in place within					
investigatory and disciplinary					
processes					
Other					

12.a. If other, please specify:

13. Please state whether your organisation provides the following support and information to students involved in reports and disclosures.

	Required				
	Not yet	Partially	Fully	Don't	N/A
	started	implemented	implemented	know	
Provision of support for					
students regardless of whether					
a formal report or complaint is					
made					
Support only to the reporting					
student in the event of a					
disclosure prior to the launch of					
a formal investigation					
Support to both the reporting					
and responding students in the					
event of a disclosure prior to					
the launch of a formal					
investigation					
A protocol for timely					
communications with reporting					
and responding parties					
Timely procedures for dealing					
with reports of incidents of					
harassment or sexual					
misconduct					
Communication of the outcome					
of the investigatory process and					
any actions the provider has					
taken to both the reporting and					
responding students					
Other					

13.a. If other, please specify:

14. Please provide any further details about your organisation's approach to responding to disclosures and reports of harassment and sexual misconduct, including whether this has changed over the past two years.

15. What are the main barriers or challenges your organisation faces in the effective prevention of harassment and sexual misconduct affecting students, and / or to responding effectively to incidents of harassment and sexual misconduct when they occur?

16. What further support, guidance or interventions would be helpful for your organisation both to prevent and respond to incidents of harassment and sexual misconduct more effectively in future?