

STUDENT PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES POLICY

(Health, Wellbeing and Support for Study, Fitness to Practise, Student Discipline and Dignity and Respect)

This is a revised version of this policy, approved by Senate to be applied from 2 February 2026. You can request a copy of the previous version of this policy by emailing studentpolicy@bath.ac.uk.

If you require this document in an alternative format, such as large print or a coloured background please contact: precautionarymeasures@bath.ac.uk

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Precautionary measures are steps the University can take to keep individuals and our community safe while concerns about a student's behaviour or wellbeing are being investigated or addressed fully through formal processes.
- 1.2 They are supportive measures intended to manage risk. They are not a penalty or sanction, and they are not an indication of any potential outcome of another University process.
- 1.3 The purpose of this policy is:
 - To ensure the University is able to mitigate risk to individuals involved in internal and external formal processes and to protect both the University community and wider community
 - To ensure that risks are assessed, and precautionary measures are applied, proportionately, consistently, and fairly across the University's internal formal processes and external processes involving members of our community

2. Scope

- 2.1 This policy can be applied in relation to the following University policies and procedures:
 - Student Discipline (Regulation 7)
 - Dignity and Respect Policy (where the respondent is a student)
 - Health, Wellbeing and Support for Study
 - Fitness to Practise
- 2.2 It may also be applied in relation to other University policies where it is reasonable and appropriate to do so. Precautionary measures may be implemented prior to and/or during these processes.
- 2.3 Additionally, this policy may be applied where a student who is registered or enrolled at the University of Bath is involved with a formal external process such as a police investigation or being detained under the Mental Health Act.

2.4 Precautionary measures will be considered when there is a perceived or actual risk (including but not limited) to:

- the physical or psychological safety, or wellbeing of the student/s involved in a formal process, other members of the University community, or the wider community
- a student's ability to progress academically or engage with the requirements of university life as a whole, as a result of their health, wellbeing or behaviour
- the integrity or effectiveness of a formal investigation or process
- the University itself (including its reputation and operations)

2.5 Precautionary measures may include, but are not limited to:

- no contact orders
- changes or conditions applied to studying, living or working arrangements
- exclusion from some or all of the University's premises and/or spaces
- suspension from studies

2.6 The measures that are put in place should be those which will best meet the aims of keeping individuals and our community safe, and mitigating identified risks, while having the minimum necessary impact on the student they are being applied to.

3. Policy Interactions

3.1 The Precautionary Measures Policy is always applied in conjunction with one or more other University policies (see Scope) or a formal external process.

4. Overview of the Precautionary Measures Procedure

4.1 If a risk is identified within the scope of this policy, a Precautionary Measures Panel will be convened to consider the risks and what measures could be put in place to mitigate them.

4.2 Any precautionary measures that are applied will be monitored regularly and reviewed by a Precautionary Measures Panel where necessary.

4.3 The [Precautionary Measures Procedure](#) provides more information.

5. Right of Appeal

5.1 A student who has been suspended from their studies as a precautionary measure may use the [Student Appeals Policy and Procedure](#) to submit an appeal (within the bounds of that policy) following notification of the outcome of a Precautionary Measures Panel meeting. Appeals need to be submitted within 10 working days of the precautionary measure being applied.

5.2 Other than suspension from their studies, students are not able to appeal measures applied to them under the Precautionary Measures policy.

5.3 Students can request a review of the precautionary measures applied to or affecting them at any point if new information becomes available or if their circumstances change in a way that affects the original decision. Reviews of precautionary measures are intended to ensure that the measures remain appropriate and continue to meet the aim of keeping individuals and the

community safe. They are not a way to appeal the precautionary measures that have been applied.

6. Procedural Fairness

- 6.1 Wherever reasonably possible, students will be supported to share their views with the Precautionary Measures Panel before a decision is made. However, in some situations it might not be possible to arrange the student's input before applying precautionary measures, for example if it is assessed that the individual or others are at immediate risk of harm, or if the individual is in hospital.
- 6.2 Where more than one student is involved, the Precautionary Measures Panel will consider the needs and safety of all parties. The Panel will take into account the views of all parties about what would help them to feel safe and supported, but they will not always be able to act exactly as requested. The University's priority is to apply precautionary measures that are fair, proportionate, and effective in managing risk.
- 6.3 No person with a conflict of interest will be asked to make a decision relating to the application of precautionary measures. A conflict of interest occurs when an individual's professional or personal interests – family, friendships, financial, or social factors – could compromise their ability to apply judgement or act fairly and objectively. A conflict of interest can be actual or perceived.

7. Support for Students

- 7.1 We understand that precautionary measures matters can be very stressful for students and are committed to the process being as empathetic and supportive as possible. All students involved in and/or affected by precautionary measures will be made aware of, and actively encouraged to engage with, the support options that are available to them throughout the process.
- 7.2 We understand that some students may need additional arrangements to fully access this process. Any reasonable adjustments will be considered and put in place where possible.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

Senate is responsible for:

- The Precautionary Measures Policy and approving any amendments to it.

The Deputy Director of Student Policy & Safeguarding is responsible for:

- Overseeing the effective application of the Precautionary Measures Policy, and its interaction with other student safeguarding policies
- Overseeing and implementing the associated Precautionary Measures Procedure
- Determining whether to convene a Precautionary Measures Panel, or Review Panel, where a risk is reported or identified
- Acting as Chair of the Precautionary Measures Panel meetings, overseeing the proceedings of the panel meeting itself, chairing the discussion, managing

attendance and contributions, ensuring a fair and procedurally sound process, and leading the panel in reaching decisions and determining outcomes.

- Recommending to a Pro Vice-Chancellor (PVC) precautionary measures relating to suspension from studies or full or partial exclusion from University spaces for ratification
- Reporting to Senate annually on precautionary measures cases handled, outcomes, common themes and recommendations to improve University practice and the student experience

Any of the functions of the Deputy Director of Student Policy & Safeguarding under this policy may be delegated to a member of the Student Support & Safeguarding Leadership Team, normally the Student Casework Manager.

The Precautionary Measures Panel is responsible for:

- Assessing the associated risks and determining proportionate precautionary measures to mitigate these risks in relation to the cases that are referred to them

The Student Casework Team is responsible for:

- The operational delivery of the Precautionary Measures Policy and Procedure
- Acting as secretary to the Precautionary Measures Panel, convening panel meetings, liaising with the Chair, panel members and advisors, advising on policy and procedure, compiling and circulating relevant information and documentation ahead of and following panel meetings.
- Disseminating the agreed outcomes of Precautionary Measures Panels to all relevant parties and stakeholders
- Routine monitoring of active precautionary measures cases

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (PVC) is responsible for:

- Approval of precautionary measures relating to suspension from studies, or full or partial exclusion from University spaces recommended to them by a Precautionary Measures Panel

Students involved in a Precautionary Measures case are responsible for:

- Complying with any precautionary measures that are applied to them
- Keeping the Precautionary Measures Panel secretary updated (via precautionarymeasures@bath.ac.uk) of any developments or changes to their circumstances that mean the precautionary measures applied to them, or impacting them, may need to be reviewed
- Responding in good time to any requests for details or additional information on their case

9. Monitoring and Record keeping

9.1 Cases handled under the Precautionary Measures Policy, including decisions made, outcomes and common themes will be recorded, and an annual report provided to Senate and its relevant committees.

9.2 All records taken under this policy will be held for the recommended period of time for which records should be retained to comply with legal requirements and meet operational needs as defined with the [University Records Retention Schedule](#).

9.3 If you have any feedback on this policy, or on your experience of this policy or process, please email studentpolicy@bath.ac.uk.

Document Control Information

Any such amendments are identified above and will take effect from the date shown.

Date of Last Update: January 2026

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