

Safeguarding and Mental Health: Adult Student Emergency Contact Procedure

Dear Student

Welcome to Hull College. All adult students at Hull College are given the opportunity to provide details of an emergency safeguarding contact when enrolling with us. This information is held on the College's student record system, in accordance with current UK data protection legislation. This scheme is not compulsory, and students are encouraged to volunteer or opt-in to share this information to ensure that emergency safeguarding contact details can be used in certain limited circumstances. Adult students can nominate anyone they choose to be their emergency safeguarding contact. This could be for the majority of our students a parent, carer or guardian, trusted adult friend, or other nominated responsible adult.

Students should ensure that their emergency safeguarding contact is aware that they have been nominated, and that their contact details will be given to Hull College. Students should also ensure that their emergency contact has given permission to be an emergency safeguarding contact. Wherever possible, students should give a mobile phone number as well as a landline so that contact can be made quickly in an emergency or crisis safeguarding situations. Students are asked to keep these details up to date and may change these and other personal details if required. Hull College will assume that the information is up to date and may need to use it without being able to check with the student first.

Circumstances when Hull College may use an Emergency Safeguarding Contact

Under data protection legislation, we may disclose personal information about a student without consent to the emergency safeguarding contact named, and where appropriate to do so to safeguard and protect individuals, local care and support services when it is in their 'vital interests' to do so; this means in serious safeguarding and life and death situations. Every student is an individual and their personal circumstances at the time will be taken into consideration by our experienced and dedicated safeguarding team before using the emergency safeguarding contact details provided. The following are examples of circumstances in which Hull College might inform the emergency safeguarding contact of our safeguarding concerns:

- A student has attended or been admitted to hospital in an emergency.
- A student has suffered a serious physical injury, including self-harm.
- A student ceases to engage with their studies and we have been unable to contact them, and most importantly this is considered highly unusual by college staff who are familiar with the student, and/or there have been previous serious safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Threats to harm self, or others, or other serious vulnerability concerns that require immediate intervention and the student is not in a position because of their vulnerability to safeguard and protect themselves
- Where there have been previous serious episodes of mental health crisis, or known suicide risks

If you have any questions about this procedure please contact David Greenway, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, on 01482 598738, internal Ex 2038, or email David.Greenway@hull-college.ac.uk

Thank you

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