

## The University of Manchester

### Policy on Supporting Health, Fitness and Return to Study

Note: any reference in this Policy to named officers should also be read as a reference in each case to a delegated nominee.

#### Contents

1. Context
2. Purpose and Scope
3. Procedures
4. Confidentiality

#### 1. Context

- 1.1 The University is committed to supporting students and recognises the impact that a student's health, wellbeing, behaviour and conduct can have on their academic progression and wider university experience. Issues with any of these may affect a student's fitness to study.

#### 2. Purpose and Scope

- 2.1 This Policy covers all students registered at the University including post-graduate researchers.
- 2.2 This Policy will usually be used when concerns about a student's academic progress, behaviour, conduct and/or ability to function appropriately at the University are thought to be the result of mental and/or physical ill health.
- 2.3 This Policy will usually be used by staff when a student's health, wellbeing, behaviour and/or conduct is significantly impacting on their ability to progress academically and/or function at the University, and/or on other students/staff.
- 2.4 This Policy aims to ensure that:
  - 2.4.1 in partnership and in discussion with the student, their situation is considered in relation to their personal circumstances, their health and/or wellbeing;
  - 2.4.2 students are supported to study/research and manage their behaviour and/or conduct to engage in university life and, wherever possible, to meet the required learning/research outcomes and complete their programme;
  - 2.4.3 students who are experiencing difficulties in relation to their health and/or wellbeing are supported to address their difficulties at the earliest appropriate point and have access to appropriate support services;
  - 2.4.4 students are able to make informed decisions regarding options available to them; and
  - 2.4.5 staff from Schools and support services work together where appropriate so that students experience a consistent and fair process.
- 2.5 This Policy should be used sensitively in partnership and in discussion with the student where there is sufficient belief that a student's behaviour, conduct, attendance and/or academic progress is thought to be the result of mental and/or physical ill health. This Policy may also be used when the University has concerns about the impact of a student's behaviour and/or conduct on their own safety and wellbeing or the safety and wellbeing of others.

### 3. Procedures

3.1 This Policy is supported by two procedures:

3.1.1 Procedure on Support to Study: the Procedure can be found [here](#). This Procedure enables the University to focus expertise, advice and support on issues of health, wellbeing, behaviour and conduct which require additional support and monitoring which could include disciplinary action such as a temporary cessation of studies; and

3.1.2 Procedure on Supporting Return to Study: the Procedure can be found [here](#). This Procedure ensures students returning to study receive appropriate support to help them meet the required learning outcomes and complete their programme of study whilst taking account of their health and wellbeing going forward.

### 4. Confidentiality

4.1 At all stages of this Policy and the accompanying procedures, there is an expectation that all those involved will, where possible and appropriate, respect the confidentiality of the matters concerned; however, there may be circumstances in which confidentiality cannot be maintained which is covered in the Procedures.

Document control box	
Policy/procedure title:	Policy on Supporting Health, Fitness and Return to Study
Lead contact email:	<a href="mailto:Spencer.Davies@manchester.ac.uk">Spencer.Davies@manchester.ac.uk</a>
Date approved:	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
Approving body:	Senate TLS Committee
Version:	2.0
Supersedes:	1.0
Previous review dates:	25 April 2018
Next review date:	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2024
Related Statutes, Ordinances, General Regulations	<a href="#">Regulation XVII (Conduct and Discipline of Students)</a> <a href="#">Regulation XX – Monitoring Attendance and Wellbeing of Students</a>
Related policies/procedures/guidance etc:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wellbeing</li> <li>• <a href="#">Student Mental Health</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Policy on Recording and Monitoring Attendance</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Policy on Circumstances Leading to Changes to PGR Study</a></li> <li>• Procedure on Support to Study</li> <li>• Procedure on Fitness to Study</li> <li>• Procedure on Supporting Return to Study</li> <li>• <a href="#">Guidelines for monitoring student attendance</a></li> </ul>
Policy Owner	The Director of Campus Life
Lead contact:	Head of Advice and Response

Version amendment history		
Version	Date	Reason for change
1.0	25 April 2018	Original document (New Policy)
2.0	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	Minor changes to apply policy to all students at 2.1 and to update links to procedures at 3.1