

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH STUDENT CHARTER

The University of Plymouth Student Charter is a tripartite agreement in the spirit of collegiality between the University, the University of Plymouth Students' Union (UPSU) and the student body. Its purpose is that it should be used as a framework for students and staff at the University of Plymouth, setting out the commitments, expectations, and responsibilities of students, the University and the Students' Union. It does not constitute a legally binding contract, but was designed in collaboration with students to encompass the key beliefs and shared principles of the University and Students' Union.

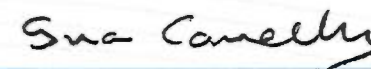
The Student Charter will be reviewed and endorsed annually by the University and UPSU.



Professor Judith Petts CBE
Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive



Alex Doyle
President
University of Plymouth
Students' Union



Gina Connolly
CEO
University of Plymouth
Students' Union



**UNIVERSITY OF
PLYMOUTH**

Date:

19th June 2018

upsu
university of plymouth students' union



EDUCATION

- Provide a supportive, inclusive and stimulating research-led learning environment that empowers students to reach their full potential.
- Deliver challenging, invigorating curricula, at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, taught by staff who are experts in their subject and who are committed to high quality, engaging and innovative teaching and learning.
- Provide academic support, resources and facilities so that you can take responsibility for your own learning to complete your studies.
- Ensure you get clear assessment criteria, followed by constructive and timely feedback on your assessed work.
- Embed consideration of employability in the curriculum providing students with access to careers advice, skills training, placement opportunities or work experience to support you to obtain graduate employment or further study opportunities.

STUDENT LIFE

- Offer accessible, safe places on our campuses in which to work and study and which consider the environmental and community impact of its activities.
- Provide access to friendly and professional support on health and wellbeing, accommodation, finance and other sources of advice to keep you well.
- Provide high-quality library, IT, specialist laboratories and other facilities and services that enhance your student experience and learning.
- Publish a clear up-to-date teaching timetable and give you as much notice as possible of any unavoidable timetable changes.
- Provide clear information about procedures and support relating to complaints, appeals, study and wellbeing and disciplinary matters.
- Encourage you to engage with the opportunities that UPSU has to offer, and make reasonable adjustments enabling that to happen.

REPRESENTATION

- Embed students as active partners in programme development, management and the academic life of the University.
- Ensure student representation in programme-, school- and University-level committees that influence strategic decisions and shape your academic programmes and experience.
- Encourage your participation in elections for student representatives through whom your views can be communicated.
- Enable informal and formal opportunities to give programme feedback.
- Value and act on the comments you give relating to your experience and use such feedback to make improvements.
- Inform you and consult with you on, significant University plans.

COMMUNITIES

- Ensure all staff treat students with respect, tolerance, courtesy and professionalism.
- Foster an environment which encourages personal development, free speech, mutual understanding and academic freedom.
- Promote equality of treatment for all, regardless of gender, age, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief.
- Encourage sustainability, social responsibility and cultural awareness at local, national and global levels.





EDUCATION

- Actively engage with your learning, have a willingness to reflect on and question your experiences, and take advantage of all the resources available to you.
- Attend your induction sessions, participate in timetabled classes and attend meetings with your tutors and academic supervisors.
- Ensure that you behave with integrity and do not cheat, plagiarise or engage in any form of academic dishonesty and seek support to avoid doing so.
- Work to the best of your ability, taking responsibility for managing your own learning and committing sufficient time to independent study.
- Seek feedback and act appropriately upon any given.
- Engage with available resources to enhance your personal development and graduate prospects.

STUDENT LIFE

- Be aware and seek to engage with extra-curricular activities provided by the University and UPSU, and additional training opportunities.
- Pay your tuition fees in a timely manner and declare any issues at the earliest point possible.
- Embrace the 'students as partners' culture by participating in student-led activities, and co-creating with staff opportunities that enhance what is available for yourself and others.
- Take responsibility to keep yourself well and safe.
- Raise any concerns at the earliest opportunity to facilitate timely and appropriate support.
- Familiarise yourself with the requirements of University policies and procedures.

REPRESENTATION

- Be a positive ambassador of the University and UPSU, acting at all times to enhance the reputation of both.
- Be a critical friend to the University and hold your student representatives to account.
- Give constructive and honest feedback in order to encourage positive change.
- Fully engage with UPSU's democratic process, particularly by voting in the student elections.
- Bring forward initiatives and contribute to positive local and national change.
- Take part in student consultations in order to get the most out of your student experience.

COMMUNITIES

- Be a role model for others, behaving with respect, dignity and courtesy to all.
- Engage with the University alumni network in order to enrich your and future graduates' lives.
- Treat both local and national residents with respect and kindness and always be upstanding citizens.
- Recognise, respect and tolerate the varying cultures and lifestyles of your peers and of members of the University's local communities so as to foster integration.
- Uphold the University and UPSU's value of sustainability by making a difference as active citizens and caring for the wellbeing of others and the natural environment.
- Engage with the communities on campus, showing respect and professionalism to all, including University and UPSU staff, and your student peers.
- Care for and protect all facilities and equipment provided by the University and UPSU.





EDUCATION

- Provide advice and support for you on any academic related issues.
- Be a critical friend of the University, while maintaining a constructive relationship, contributing to decisions that affect students' education.
- Work with the University to continually enhance and develop the academic student experience via our student representatives.

STUDENT LIFE

- Ensure all UPSU activities are of the highest quality and are innovative, accessible and meet the needs of our students.
- Provide an independent, confidential, impartial Advice Centre.
- Promote, deliver and sustain a diverse range of social events, services and activities.
- Help you identify and develop transferable skills to improve your graduate employment prospects.
- Provide appropriate training enabling you to fulfil any UPSU-related responsibilities.

REPRESENTATION

- Ensure that our student representatives are the recognised voice of the students at the University of Plymouth.
- Provide accessible, democratic decision-making processes through which UPSU can represent student views.
- Empower student representatives to challenge and work in partnership with the University to ensure student views inform the development and improvement of provision and the wider student experience.
- Hold transparent, fair and democratic elections to select student representatives.
- Ensure that student representatives have access to training in order to effectively fulfil their role.

COMMUNITIES

- Ensure students, University and UPSU staff are treated with respect, dignity and courtesy.
- Operate sustainably in a socially, ethically and environmentally responsible manner.
- Create opportunities through our student-led activities for enjoyment, friendship and skills building through societies, sport, volunteering and fundraising.
- Provide you with the opportunities to play an active role in society, the local community and beyond.
- Ensure all activities promote high standards of personal and professional conduct and respect the views and culture of all individuals.
- Provide and promote an inclusive environment that both celebrates and promotes Equality and Diversity.
- Provide a safe and enjoyable space for our students.

