

CODE OF CONDUCT AND GOOD NEIGHBOUR GUIDANCE

Anti-social behaviour brings the University into disrepute and is therefore contrary to General Regulation 7.1

About this Code and Guidance

As a student of the University of Buckingham, you must sign a pledge to show that you understand what 'anti-social' behaviour is, and to promise that you will not behave badly towards your neighbours or others in the community. The Code of Conduct explains what anti-social behaviour is and sets out standards for good behaviour. *For students on the MBChB undergraduate medical programme the GMC standards 'Medical students, professionalism and Fitness to Practise' and the MBChB Code of Practice for Fitness to Practise proceedings may apply.*

You will also be confirming that, if your behaviour is anti-social, you will be breaking the terms of any Tenancy Agreement you may have signed with us. This will result in disciplinary action being taken against you, and can lead to you being evicted from your accommodation. If you are living in privately-leased accommodation, you may have signed a Good Neighbour Agreement with your letting agent/landlord, but even if you have not, the University may impose a fine upon you or take further disciplinary action in the event that your behaviour is anti-social.

What is Anti-social Behaviour?

Anti-social behaviour includes serious acts of violence, harassment, or threats of violence and causing general nuisance. The following list gives some examples of behaviour that we consider anti-social (and in some instances, criminal). This behaviour will not be tolerated.

- Aggressive and/or threatening language and behaviour;
- Being rude and abusive to neighbours, police officers and members of University staff;
- Using or selling illegal drugs;
- Loud Noise, especially late at night, for example, music, shouting, running up and down stairs, groups of people talking;
- Slamming doors;
- Offensive drunkenness;
- Damage to property, graffiti;
- Dumping rubbish and litter into the street or gardens;
- Parking cars on private property, abandoning cars or keeping untaxed cars;
- Being a general nuisance in the community;
- Allowing your friends/relatives/visitors to behave in an anti-social way: **you** will be responsible for the conduct of **your guests**.

Being a Good Neighbour

Anti-social behaviour causes distress for people that want to live peacefully in their homes and neighbourhoods. The University of Buckingham and its partner organisations are committed to dealing quickly and firmly with those who behave in a way which threatens the peace and security of local residents.

The University is located in a quiet residential area. You must remember that many residents work and therefore need to be able to sleep at night. There are also many elderly residents and families with young children, who also need to be able to sleep. Unlike London and other large towns, there is very little noise in Buckingham at night, therefore any noise you might make will disturb other people.

The University of Buckingham expects all its students to treat others living in their neighbourhood with respect. By being a good neighbour you will be helping to protect the reputation of the University and its students, which will make your time in Buckingham more enjoyable.

What can you do to be a good neighbour?

You may be liable to be fined for anti-social behaviour by the University even when you are living in private accommodation. Continued anti-social behaviour may result in suspension or expulsion from the University, in addition to any action taken by the landlord/letting agent.

There are many things that you can do to help prevent nuisance and anti-social behaviour. Some examples are listed below.

1. DO NOT MAKE NOISE

- **Do not play very loud music at any time. Avoid playing loud music at night, especially after 11pm**
- When returning to a flat late at night, take care to move about as quietly as possible. Do not run or stamp up and down stairs, slam taxi/car doors or doors in your accommodation, or talk in corridors
- **Avoid talking loudly and do not shout in the street or garden whenever you are outside smoking or walking to and from your home.**

2. PARK YOUR CAR CAREFULLY

- **Do not, under any circumstances, park your car** in any area marked "Private" or "Residents Only", **unless your own Tenancy Agreement gives you written permission** to use a parking space
- Do not invite guests to park in a car park marked "Private" or "Residents Only", unless they have their own individual permission under a Tenancy Agreement
- **Do not block access** to or from a private car park or car parking space
- **Do not park unlawfully** (on double or single yellow lines, or in a way that obstructs other traffic)

3. KEEP YOUR ACCOMMODATION CLEAN AND TIDY

- **Read the provisions of your tenancy agreement carefully - do all the things your tenancy agreement requires you to do, and do not break any of the terms of the agreement**
- **Do not smoke if you are not permitted to do so by your tenancy agreement (students may not smoke in University Accommodation)**
- **Report any problems with plumbing/heating immediately to your landlord or letting agent**
- **Dispose of your rubbish in the proper bins/receptacles and put any bins or sacks out for collection at the proper time. (In Buckingham, blue sacks = recycling, purple sacks = rubbish: collection dates are available from the Council – do not use black sacks which will not be taken - if in doubt concerning how to get rid of any rubbish, ask your landlord, your letting agent or the local Council (in Buckingham, see https://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/refuse-and-recycling/#Just_moved_here or call Aylesbury Vale District Council - 01296 585510).**
- **Leave your house/flat in a clean, tidy and habitable condition when you move out**

If you feel threatened

On campus, you should report cases of genuine nuisance and/or anti-social behaviour to University Security (07860 834802). **Off campus**, you should report anti-social behaviour to the AVDC Community Safety Team (01296 585061 9am-5pm) or to the police (dial 101). (**Please note** that the police

emergency number 999 should **only** be used in a **real emergency** – if you are in danger or if there is a crime in progress.)

If you feel that someone is acting unreasonably, and you do not feel threatened, speak to them **calmly and politely** first before making a complaint to see if the issue can be resolved.

If you have made a formal complaint, work with the people you have complained to in order to sort the problem out. Keep to any actions agreed with them while the complaint is being investigated.

Your pledge to The University of Buckingham

Now that you understand what is required to be a “good neighbour”, you must sign this pledge.

If you have any more questions, ask them before you sign.

I pledge that whilst I am a student of The University of Buckingham, I will do everything I can to be a “good neighbour” and I will not behave in any way which may be considered “anti-social”.

I understand that if I or any visitors to my accommodation are behaving in a way that can be considered as being anti-social, The University of Buckingham can take disciplinary action for breach of this agreement.

I understand that disciplinary action could include eviction from my University Accommodation.

Signed: _____ Student

ID Number: _____

Date: _____

Witnessed by: _____ For the University of
Buckingham