

Children on Campus Policy



BATH SPA
UNIVERSITY

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Bath Spa University values the presence of children on campus in a wide variety of circumstances, including education, research or activities that enable our social impact and inclusivity mission.
- 1.2 This policy provides clarity for a consistent approach to bringing children onto University premises, whilst maintaining a professional environment for work and study.
- 1.3 As a University we work hard to ensure we provide a safe environment, but it is important to acknowledge that our premises are not generally designed to accommodate children. Therefore, there are dangers to which unsupervised children may be exposed.
- 1.4 The University has a legal duty of care for the health and safety for all members of our community and anyone using our premises. This policy is to ensure reasonable and proportionate judgments can be made regarding access for children when on University premises.

2. Definitions

- 2.1 A child is defined as anyone under the age of 18.
- 2.2 University premises covers all Bath Spa University campuses, for example offices, teaching spaces, library, car parks and other outdoor areas.

3. Policy

3.1 Planned events and activities

There are many reasons why children may visit University premises or participate in University organised activity and this policy is not intended to restrict the attendance or participation of children at planned events or activities at Bath Spa.

Examples of planned events and activity include, but are not limited to:

- Visits and activity organised by the University, Local Authority, external schools, or other recognised bodies, including teaching and learning activity, summers schools or outreach/inreach activity.
- Approved research activity.
- University organised activity other than at University premises, such as field work or trips.
- University events where children may attend as visitors, for example graduation and open days.
- Residential events in University accommodation.
- Public talks and lectures on University premises.
- Designated University family events.

- Events organised by external organisations involving the hire/use of University facilities and residences.

Robust health, safety and safeguarding arrangements must be in place for all organised events and activities. This includes specific risk assessment and the implementation of robust risk control measures for children.

Completion of risk assessments and the implementation of appropriate controls is the responsibility of the event or activity organiser. Additional robust arrangements must be in place for organised events requiring access to higher risk environments such as laboratories.

3.2 Unplanned or Adhoc situations

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Social visits by parents with new-born babies or young children.
- Accompanying a parent, including a Students' Union employee or student to University for a brief time, such as to visit colleagues or friends or to collect work.
- Breastfeeding parents Pregnancy (Maternity) Leave Policy (BSU intranet).

The presence of children on University premises should only occur in low-risk, accessible areas, for short duration and where their presence does not disrupt the usual operation of the University.

A child on Bath Spa University premises must be always accompanied by an adult and the adult should be able to supervise the actions of the child. Supervision means being present in the same space or room and engaged in no other task, such that an immediate response may be made to a child, if necessary.

Children should not be brought into high-risk areas including laboratories, workshops, studios, food outlet kitchens, or other hazardous areas or be exposed to hazardous activity or equipment.

Children should not be brought into the workplace or learning and teaching spaces, unless for an organised event.

3.3 Unaccompanied Children

Due to the open nature of our premises, unaccompanied children can have access to our campuses, for example because there is a public right of way.

In these circumstances it is the University's responsibility and duty to ensure that access can only be gained to low-risk and publicly accessible areas.

The following must be reported immediately to BSU Security, to enable a prompt response and escalation if necessary:

- Children are unaccompanied or unsupervised.
- Children are observed entering a higher risk or non-publicly accessible area, for example laboratories, workshops, studios, food outlet kitchens, or other hazardous areas.
- Children accessing hazardous equipment or materials or engaging in hazardous activity.
- Children are seen to be behaving in a way that is likely to cause harm, disruption of risk to themselves or others.

Document Details

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Related Policies and Procedures: [School Visits Code of Conduct](#) and [Safeguarding Policy](#)

Supersedes: N/A

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