University of Surrey
Fitness to Study Policy Statement

Purpose
1. The purpose of this Fitness to Study Policy Statement is to set out the scope of the University's commitment to provide support for its students that is consistent with its primary purpose as an academic community dedicated to teaching, research, and scholarship.

Scope
2. The scope of this Fitness to Study Policy encompasses students studying at the University full-time, part-time and via distance learning on undergraduate programmes, taught modular programmes that lead to higher degrees and the programmes of postgraduate research described in Section C of the University's Academic Regulations (referred to in this Policy Statement as 'Students'). The Fitness to Study Policy also applies to:
   - Students while they are undertaking a Professional Training Year, or are otherwise undertaking work-based or blended learning
   - Students while they are on educational exchanges or are otherwise away from the campus
   - Educational exchange students registered with another higher education institution who are being hosted by the University, other than where the University and the other institution have made and formally recorded separate arrangements
   - Individuals who have registered with the University to follow short courses

Students of the University and students of the University's Associated and Accredited Institutions studying for University of Surrey awards with the University's Associated and Accredited Institutions are subject to Ordinance 45. Students of the University's Associated and Accredited Institutions are subject to the regulations adopted by those Institutions for fitness to study (or their equivalents).

3. This Policy should be read in conjunction with other University policies and procedures including its Student Charter; its Disability Policy for Staff Students and Visitors; its Equality and Diversity Policy; its Widening Participation Policy; its Policy on Disclosure, Confidentiality and Sharing of Personal Data Concerning Disability and its Regulations for Fitness to Practise.

4. The University of Surrey is an academic community dedicated to taking forward world-class research, scholarship and learning in partnership with its staff, students, and others who share its vision and values.

Definition
5. The University defines 'Fitness to Study' for its students as
   'being able to participate in the programmes of study, research and scholarship that the University provides for them, to the extent that they are able to do so in safety, and without endangering the safety or well-being of themselves or others, with reasonable adjustments where appropriate, and with full opportunities to meet the learning outcomes for their programme.'
6  The University strongly recommends applicants and Students who wish to check their own fitness to study to seek advice at the earliest opportunity. For applicants this should initially be through discussions with the staff of the University's Admissions Service who may refer them to specialist advisers where appropriate.

7  Students already registered to study at the University who wish to check their own fitness to study should contact the University's Student Support Services and/or the Additional Learning Support service (ALS). They may also contact the designated Academic Leader for their programme or subject area, their personal tutor, or the academic advice and support service linked to their programme.

8  The University is an academic community and the support and care facilities it is able to provide for its students are those that are appropriate to an academic community. Where a student needs specialist or 24 hour nursing or other care, the University will refer to the NHS, community and other statutory services that can provide appropriate support.

Support for this Fitness to Study Policy

9  The University provides training for staff in the application of this Policy and how it relates to cognate Policies including those listed in paragraph 3 above. This training is also available to Officers and Officials of the University of Surrey Students' Union (USSU) and the University's Associated and Accredited Institutions.

10 The University also provides training and periodic updates for staff and Officers and Officials of USSU in the application of the associated Fitness to Study Regulations.

Approved by Senate 2 July 2013