



University Disciplinary Policy

Loughborough University takes reports of sexual and domestic violence seriously.

I've been the subject of sexual violence or domestic violence, what can the University do?

We want to make sure that you can study and live in a safe and supportive environment.

We can:

- Discuss options available to you.
- If the alleged perpetrator is another student here, we can act under University disciplinary policy.
- Offer you emotional and practical support including adjustments to help you study
- Signpost you to relevant specialist services.
- Support you to make a report to the police.
- If the perpetrator is not a student here, we can take action to bar them from campus.

Can I seek advice confidentiality?

We understand that you have been through something traumatic that you didn't consent to.

If you tell us about it, we will discuss your options. We won't act against your wishes, unless there are safeguarding issues, that is, if we think that someone is at serious ongoing risk, especially if we think the person is vulnerable.

Who can I make a report to?

You can make a report using the online form, to any member of staff who you feel comfortable to speak to, but Security, staff in Student Services and Wardens have some training and experience in dealing with this type of case.

What happens when I report?

We will listen.

We will give you emotional and practical support.

We will try to advise you about the options that are available to you.

These would include:

- Making a report to the Police (we would help you with this).
- Asking the University to act without involving the police.
- Asking for support without an investigation.

What is the disciplinary process if you've been subject to SV or DV?

Our disciplinary process site within Ordinance XVII, Conduct and Discipline of Students.

If you decide to make a report to the Police:

- The Police will lead the investigation. The University will offer support from an appropriate Student Service team, alongside the Sexual Assault Referral Centre.
- At the conclusion of the Police investigation and any criminal process (that might include a court hearing), if you wish us to, we will undertake our own investigation (see below).
- We can and will still investigate even if the Police or courts take no action. The University can consider evidence that may not be admissible in court and works to the balance of probability.

If you make a complaint to the University:

- A Security Investigator will talk to you to get a full account. We can meet you in any place you feel comfortable, and you are welcome to have someone of your choice to support you.
- We will try and find other evidence. This might involve talking to other witnesses and the perpetrator and looking at our CCTV.
- We can put interim action in place to minimise any contact between you and the perpetrator.
- Emotional and practical support is provided through Student services or Living Without Abuse.

The file will be considered by the Chief Operating Officer. If they feel that there is enough evidence to prove what has occurred, they will ask for the matter to be considered by a disciplinary panel. If they are found guilty, the University can act up to and including termination of studies – telling them they must leave the University.

How long will the process take?

We try to investigate serious incidents as quickly as we can, but incidents are so different that it is impossible to suggest a time scale. Particularly where the police are involved, we can't resolve disciplinary cases until Police and court action comes to an end, but we can take interim action. We will keep you informed as far as possible based on the individual circumstances of your case.

Will I have to tell other people what happened?

There are some circumstances where you could be asked to give your account to a disciplinary panel. The alleged perpetrator can be present, but we will give you the option to give your account from another room via a video link.

What if the University decides there isn't enough evidence to discipline the alleged perpetrator?

The University can consider a wide range of evidence as set out in Ordinance XVII. If the alleged perpetrator does not admit their conduct and they are not found guilty, we cannot continue to act against them, but we will continue to do all that we can to support you.