



STUDENT PROTECTION PLAN

2023/24

Contact point for enquiries about this student protection plan:

University Secretary. Email address: jean.brown@cumbria.ac.uk

This plan does not extend to short-term disruption to students, such as loss of use of a building, which forms part of the University's Business Continuity Planning arrangements.

3) Loss of UKVI (UK Visas and Immigration) status

NB: International students require a Tier 4 Visa to study in the UK. The University's Tier 4 licence covers Lancaster, Ambleside, Fusehill Street and Brampton Campuses only

The University takes a risk-based approach to its sponsorship duties and has systems, checks and controls in place to manage the risk of licence withdrawal. These include, but are not limited to:

- x Demonstrating our integrity by ensuring we:
 - Accept only students who can evidence a legitimate ability to study at the University;
 - Enrol all students to whom we issue Confirmation of Study certificates (CAS);
 - Monitor students to ensure they remain eligible for the duration of their studies and that they comply with their visa requirements;
 - Support students through to course completion;
- x Including UKVI Compliance in our routine process of internal audit to ensure that our controls remain fit for purpose and effective;
- x Ensuring marketing and website information accurately reflects our status as a Tier 4 sponsor.

In the event of the University losing its UKVI status, the University would consider measures such as:

- x Working with the UKVI to allow registered students to complete their programme of study with the University within the UK;
- x Working with the UKVI to allow registered students to complete their programme of study via supported distance learning from the student's country of domicile;
- x Working with the UKVI to enable the transfer of any Tier 4 students to a different provider with minimal disruption to the student.

These measures would mitigate the impact on students and focus upon enabling them to complete their studies.

4) Loss of Professional Accreditation / removal from Register of Training Providers [ROTD] (for apprenticeships)

The University has well established procedures and processes for the development, approval, management and monitoring of provision carrying professional accreditation / being on the ROTD.

In the event of any academic

- x Supporting the student in transferring to an alternative provider, where appropriate.

These measures would mitigate the impact on students and focus upon enabling them to complete their studies.

8) Reduction or removal of placement allocation by placement providers (which forms a compulsory element(s) of a programme)

The University considers placement requirements through the academic validation processes and thereafter via ongoing placement monitoring and placement management arrangements. The University has significant experience in managing placement activity and sourcing placement opportunities. The University works with an extensive range of placement providers across a range of discipline areas providing depth and a critical mass to its placement activity.

In the event of the University being unable to fulfil its duty to allocate a placement to a student, the University would consider measures such as:

- x Considering alternative delivery arrangements, for example, moving or swapping placement delivery to another semester or year;
- x Extending the geographical reach of placement settings and providers;
- x Considering whether the programme learning outcomes and any professional body requirements can be achieved through an alternative practical learning experience or another type of placement;
- x Offering students the opportunity to transfer to an alternative programme within the University;
- x If none of the above are viable options, supporting students to transfer to alternative providers which offer the same or equivalent programme.

These measures would mitigate the impact on students and focus upon enabling them to complete their studies.

9) Withdrawal or Closure of Collaborative Provision

The University has in place formal agreements for its academic collaborative provision, at partner institution and programme level. Formal agreements set out responsibilities for teach out in the event of either party (the University or the partner) wishing to withdraw a programme. The agreements affirm both parties' commitments to complete the teaching of any programmes to be withdrawn to ensure that all registered students are able to complete their programme. Teach out would typically be delivered through the original delivery model (the partner delivering teach out under the oversight of the University). In the unlikely event of a collaborative partner being unable to fulfil its teach out duties to all registered students

3.

- x this policy relates specifically to circumstances outlined in the Student Protection Plan. The University has separate Student Financial Regulations which detail the arrangements for refunds in the event of student withdrawal from their programme and similar circumstances;
- x this policy does not compromise the right of any student to use the Student Complaints process.

Institutional Resourcing

The University believes that it has in place measures to effectively manage the events set out in its Student Protection Plan to ensure that students are able to continue their studies.

The University holds sufficient financial reserves to enable it to deal with the financial consequences of the majority of circumstances set out in the Student Protection Plan. Information on the University's financial position can be found in the Annual Report which is published on the University's website or available from Companies House.

4. Communicating our Student Protection Plan

The University will publish the Student Protection Plan on the University web pages (external facing) and in the Student Hub (internal facing) providing ease of access for current and future students and University staff.

The Plan will be proactively communicated as follows:

- x At offer stage, a link to the Plan will be included in the offer letter, alongside other relevant terms and conditions;
- x All new and returning students will have the Plan brought to their attention as part of online registration / re-registration, alongside relevant policies and procedures; and,
- x

Appendix A: Information relating to whether a student should look to the provisions of the University's or Partner's Student Protection Plan

Associate Partner Name	Student Protection Plan (SPP)
Belfast Bible College	Partner is located outside England. The principles of the University's SPP would apply to all programmes it delivers in partnership with the University of Cumbria
Brathay Trust	The University's SPP would apply in relation to all programmes the Partner delivers in partnership with the University of Cumbria
Bury College	

