Welfare Awareness Topic: Feeling Safe on Campus

For students to succeed they need to feel safe, healthy, and part of a tolerant and inclusive academic community, and at BPP we want to create an inclusive campus where diversity is celebrated and where Everybody Matters. As a community that is Stronger Together, we must stand together against behaviours that go against our core values of trust and respect, and we want you to speak up if you hear or see something that's not right.

Keeping yourself Safe:

Notice when things make you feel uncomfortable and speak out. If you do feel uncomfortable – leave or distance yourself from the situation you are in- your safety is the most important, and you are always within your rights to leave a situation in which you feel unsafe. Reach out if you are worried- discuss with friends, talk to customer service or your tutors, and contact Safeguarding or Learning support.

Keeping others Safe:

<u>Be an active bystander</u>- this means being aware of when someone's behaviour is inappropriate and challenging itsignalling to the perpetrator that their behaviour is unacceptable. Safely intervening could mean anything from a disapproving look, interrupting or distracting someone, not laughing at a sexist or a violent joke, talking to a friend about their behaviour in a non-confrontational way, or caring for a friend who's experienced problematic behaviour.

How You Can Intervene Safely:

- **Direct action**: Call out negative behaviour, tell the person to stop or ask the victim if they are OK. Don't aggravate the situation remain calm and state why something has offended you.
- **Distract**: Indirectly intervene- interrupt, start a conversation with the perpetrator to allow their potential target to move away or have friends intervene. Try distracting or redirecting the situation.
- **Delegate**: If you don't feel safe to speak out, get someone else to step in. This could be a more senior member of staff or someone in authority.
- **Delay**: Wait for the situation to pass and check in with the individual. Act later when you have had time to consider.

If you see someone in trouble, ask yourself if you can help safely, and talk to the person who you think may need help. If you do not feel comfortable doing this directly, get someone to help you- like a friend, a member of staff, or someone in authority. Only intervene when it is safe for you to do so, and if it's not; intervene later and get help. In an emergency, call 999.

Who can you speak to if you aren't feeling safe?

It's important that you feel safe in places where you work and study, in a community that does not tolerate harassment, assault, discrimination or misconduct. If you have concerns about your safety or are a victim of crime, don't hesitate to reach out- you will be believed, and you will be taken seriously. All information disclosed to BPP will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

If you have any concerns about your wellbeing or safety or for another student, please contact us on: safeguarding@bpp.com or call on 07464542636. In an emergency situation, you must always dial 999.

You can also contact Learning Support: learningsupport@bpp.com and our inclusion team: inclusion@bpp.com

Resources and Tips

- If you want more information on being an Active Bystander, visit Breaking the Silence for advice and resources.
- <u>SARI</u> (Stand Against Racism and Inequality) is an external organisation providing support for victims of any type of hate crime including racist, faith-based, disablist, homophobic, transphobic, age-based or gender-based.
- Tell MAMA is a secure service that allows people from across England to report any form of Anti-Muslim abuse.
- Visit Citizens Advice for more information about harassment, discrimination, and steps to take.

